



Course Number	SUST 403	Classroom	PF 110
Course Name	SUST 403 - Research Methods in Sustainability		
Pre/Co-Requisites			
Instructor	Tatenda Mambo (PhD)	Office Hours/Location	By appointment
	Email: ttmambo@ucalgary.ca	Phone: N/A	
Class Dates	Tuesdays, Sept 6 – Dec 7, 3:30pm – 6:20pm		
Instructor Email Policy	Please note that all course communications must occur through your @ucalgary email, and I will respond to emails sent via student's @ucalgary emails within 48 hours.		
Name and Email of Teaching Assistant(s)	N/A		

Course Description

Introduction

This is the third core course of the Embedded Certificate in Sustainability Studies that provides experiential learning opportunities to practice 'sustainability in action.' Students participate in applied research projects that link sustainability principles, the understanding gained in SUST 201, the research methods developed in SUST401, and students' potential career goals. These research projects will occur on and off-campus with a community partner and will engage students' academic pursuits and address community partner(s) needs.

See: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/sustainability-studies-sust.html#42745>

Teaching Approach

This course offers students an interdisciplinary perspective to challenges and approaches to sustainability research questions. Guest speakers offer perspectives on sustainability from business, government, the not-for-profit sector and academia. This course is participation based and the instructors expect students be prepared to critically engage and collaborate in class, with course materials, and with all partners. Students are expected to have the necessary tools to conduct in class research (i.e. connect to internet).

Course Hours: 3 units (3S-0)

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students will know and be able to:

1. Gain an in-depth understanding of the processes and challenges in conducting sustainability research
2. Broaden their understanding of sustainability challenges through applied research challenges
3. Demonstrate critical reflection abilities for sustainability challenges and research
4. Analyze sustainability issues and challenges faced by different stakeholders and project partners
5. Offer potential solutions and action plans to address sustainability challenges faced by project partners.

Learning Resources

All reading materials will be posted on D2L.

	Additional Classroom Conduct and Related Information		
	Guidelines for Zoom Sessions in Online Classes Students are expected to participate actively in all Zoom sessions and to turn on their webcam. Please join our class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in the Zoom sessions. Students must behave in a professional manner during the session. Students, employees, and academic staff are also expected to demonstrate behaviour in class that promotes and maintains a positive and productive learning environment.		
	Assessment Components		
Assessment Method	Weight	Due Date	Aligned Course Learning Outcome
TCPS2 Core Tutorial	5%	Sept 13	1, 2, 3, 4
Literature Review	30%	October 25	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Group Project	35%	Presentation- Dec 6: Write up- Dec, 9	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Reflective Journal	15%	Dec, 13	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Participation	15%		1, 2, 3, 4, 5
	Assessment and Evaluation Information		
	Attendance and Participation Expectations: this course is participation based and the instructors expect students be prepared to critically engage and collaborate in and out of class (in group work), with course materials, and with all partners.		

	<p>Guidelines for Submitting Assignments: Assignments and quizzes will be submitted using D2L.</p> <p>Final Examinations: No final exam</p> <p>Expectations for Writing https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html):</p> <p>Late Assignments: All assignments are subject to 5% grade reduction for every day late.</p> <p>Criteria that must be met to pass: <i>all assignments must be completed in order to pass the course.</i></p>
--	--

Grading Scale				
Grade	Grade Point Value	4-Point Range	Percent	Description
A+	4.00	4.00	92.5-100	Outstanding - evaluated by instructor
A	4.00	3.85-4.00	85-92.49	Excellent - superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter
A-	3.70	3.50-3.84	80-84.99	Very good performance
B+	3.30	3.15-3.49	76-79.99	Good performance
B	3.00	2.85-3.14	73-75.99	Satisfactory performance
B-	2.70	2.50-2.84	70-72.99	
C+	2.30	2.15-2.49	66-69.99	
C	2.00	1.85-2.14	63-65.99	
C-	1.70	1.50-1.84	60-62.99	Receipt of a grade point average of 1.70 may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation
undergraduate faculty regulations)				
D+	1.30	1.15-1.49	56-59.99	
D	1.00	0.50-1.14	50-55.99	Minimal pass – marginal performance

Topic Areas & Detailed Class Schedule

Include information relevant to the class schedule, such as weekly topics, readings, and assignment due dates. For online, remote or blended courses include whether course activities are synchronous (i.e., real-time/Zoom) and asynchronous (i.e., students complete on their own time such as discussion boards, watching videos, etc.). It is recommended that important dates including the first day of classes, holidays, term breaks and last day of classes also be included.

Course Schedule Date	Topic	Assignments/Due Dates
Sept 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course Introductions • Instructor & Student Introductions • Research groups explorations What is research?	
Sept 13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying research questions • Ethics in Sustainability Research 	Assignment Due: TCPS2 Core Tutorial
Sept 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Management • Gantt Charts • Group Contracts • Doing Sustainability Research • Literature Review Fundamentals Project Partner Guest Speakers: Steve O’Gorman: STAR Energy Solutions; Rod Olson: YYC growers; Travis Milnes: Office of Sustainability.	
Sept 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addressing Sustainability Challenges Through Research • Group Project Time • Project Assignment Guest Speaker: Irene Herremans: school of public policy, James Murphy: Learning Engagement Librarian	
Friday September 30	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation	

Oct 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods research 	
Monday October 10	Thanksgiving Holiday	
Oct 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing interview, focus group and survey questions • Data analysis and management • Presenting your findings 	
Oct 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engaging communities and challenges of field work. • Facilitation and communication skills <p>Guest Speaker: Alex Wilkinson</p>	
Oct 25	Inclusive community-based frameworks and participatory research	Assignment Due: Literature Review
Nov 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group Project work time & Instructor Check-in 	
Nov 7 – 10	Term Break	
Friday November 11	Remembrance Day	
Nov 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class debate exercise on sustainability topics 	
Nov 22	Group Project work time & Instructor check-in	
Nov 29	Group Project work time & Instructor check-in	
Dec 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group Project Presentations • Feedback from project partners 	Assignment Due: Group Project Presentations

COVID-19 PROCEDURE FOR SICK STUDENTS: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/risk/covid-19-procedure-for-sick-students>

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY COVID-19 UPDATES: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/covid-19-response>

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-accommodation-policy>

Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure>

Students needing an accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their instructor (contact information on first page above).

SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit:

<https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>

<https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website

at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION:

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>).

INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

SEXUAL VIOLENCE POLICY

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's sexual violence policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/sexual-violence-policy.pdf>

UNIVERSITY STUDENT APPEALS OFFICE: If a student has a concern about a grade that they have received, they should refer to Section I of the Undergraduate Calendar (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>) which describes how to have a grade reappraised. In addition, the student should refer to the SAPL's Procedure for reappraisal of grades

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please visit the Registrar's website at:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk