



Course Number	SUST 501	Classroom	SA 123
Course Name	Sustainability: Theory and Practice		
Pre/Co-Requisites	Sustainability Studies 403 and enrolment in the embedded Certificate in Sustainability Studies		
Instructor	Allen Habib Rebecca Laycock Pedersen	Office Hours/Location	By Appointment
	Email: anhabib@ucalgary.ca rebecca.laycockpeder@ucalgary.ca		Phone: Allen: (403) 2205533
Class Dates	Thursdays 3:30 – 6:20 pm		
Instructor Email Policy	Please note that all course communications must occur through your @ucalgary email, and we will respond to emails sent via student's @ucalgary emails within two business days.		

Course Calendar Statement

Emphasizes reflection and integration through experiential learning experiences from research projects and applied problem solving. Students will apply the lessons learned through reflective writing, presentations, case studies, and career goals development. This course may not be repeated for credit.

Course Description

This course is an upper-level seminar on sustainability theory in different domains and traditions. We survey sustainability theory's intersection with science, justice, morality and law, using feminist theory, indigenous ways of knowing, theories of change and other approaches.

Course Learning Outcomes

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

1. Discuss different theoretical traditions, their views and problems
2. Analyze complex source material in various media
3. Synthesize material from different theoretical traditions
4. Present and engage with others to share their knowledge and ideas
5. Reflect closely on their own views and reasoning on sustainability

Learning Resources

Required readings, textbooks and learning materials:

Students will be provided with a list of texts to read – with links to the UC library collection

Technology requirements (D2L etc.)

Students must have access to some computing and network resources, including:

- A computer able to run contemporary software (e.g. Zoom, Adobe) and access to the internet
- A UC ID to access the library databases
- A working UC e-mail address and access to a mail client (e.g. Outlook)

Class Schedule

Topics for the weeks are provisional and may change. Please refer to the most up to date version of the syllabus.

Date	Topic	Material
Jan 12	Introduction to the course	-
Jan 19	TBD	TBD
Jan 26	TBD	TBD
Feb 2	Sustainability and the Commons	Hardin, Garrett (1968). The Tragedy of the Commons. Science, 162(3859), 1243–1248. Ostrom, E., Burger, J., Field, C. B., Norgaard, R. B., & Policansky, D. (1999). Revisiting the commons: local lessons, global challenges. science, 284(5412), 278-282. de la Cadena, M. (2015) “Uncommoning nature” in e-flux August 2015. http://supercommunity.e-flux.com/texts/uncommoning-nature/
Feb 9	Braiding Sweetgrass	Kimmerer, R. (2013). Braiding sweetgrass: Indigenous wisdom, scientific knowledge and the teachings of plants. Milkweed editions. Sections: Preface, Skywoman Falling, The Three Sisters, In the Footsteps of Nanabozho: Becoming Indigenous to Place

		<p>Twitter thread from Dr Zoe Todd: https://twitter.com/ZoeSTodd/status/1356658436872626176</p> <p>The Spouter-Inn; or, A Conversation with Great Books podcast episode on Braiding Sweetgrass: https://www.megaphonic.fm/spouter/43</p>
Feb 16	Ecofeminism	TBD
Feb 23	Term break	
Mar 2	Power and sustainability	<p>Partzsch, L. (2017). 'Power with' and 'power to' in environmental politics and the transition to sustainability. <i>Environmental Politics</i>, 26(2), 193-211.</p> <p>Avelino, F. (2017). Power in sustainability transitions: Analysing power and (dis) empowerment in transformative change towards sustainability. <i>Environmental Policy and Governance</i>, 27(6), 505-520.</p> <p>Fritz, L., & Meinherz, F. (2020). The politics of participatory sustainability assessments: An analysis of power (pp. 87-122). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.</p>
Mar 9	Theorising change: the theory	<p>Belcher, B., Claus, R., Davel, R., Jones, S., & Ramirez, L. (2019). <i>Research Theory of Change: A Practical Tool for Planning and Evaluating Change-oriented Research</i>. Research Effectiveness.</p> <p>Dhillon, L., & Vaca, S. (2018). Refining theories of change. <i>Evaluation</i>, 14(30).</p> <p>Oberlack, C., Breu, T., Giger, M., Harari, N., Herweg, K., Mathez-Stiefel, S. L., ... & Tribaldos, T. (2019). Theories of change in sustainability science: understanding how change happens. <i>GAIA-Ecological Perspectives for Science and Society</i>, 28(2), 106-111.</p>
Mar 16	Leverage points	<p>Meadows, D. (1999). Leverage points. <i>Places to Intervene in a System</i>, 19.</p> <p>Fischer, J., & Riechers, M. (2019). A leverage points perspective on sustainability. <i>People and Nature</i>, 1(1), 115-120.</p>
Mar 23	Theorising change: the practice	TBD
Mar 30	TBD	
Apr 6	TBD	

Assessment Components			
Assessment Method	Description	Weight	Aligned Course Learning Outcome
Instructor graded	Group Presentation	35%	2 & 4
Instructor graded	5 Short papers	25%	1 & 2
Instructor graded	Research Paper	35%	1 & 3 & 4
Student graded	Learning Summaries	5%	5

Assessment and Evaluation Information
<p>Attendance and Participation Expectations</p> <p>This is a graduate-style seminar, with fewer than 20 students. Seminar style means that course texts and topics are explored in an interactive, active, collaborative, conversational, engaging, and participatory manner. It requires students to engage in this way with new ideas, or rethink old ideas and assumptions from previous classes in new ways, embracing and struggling with the nuance, complexity, and even the ambiguity that is found. Students are expected to read the material in advance and participate in discussions and activities during class.</p>
<p>Guidelines for Submitting Assignments</p> <p>Assignments will be submitted through D2L</p>
<p>Final Examinations</p> <p>No final examination</p>
<p>Expectations for Writing</p> <p>https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-2.html</p>
<p>Late Assignments</p> <p>Late assignments will be handled on a case by case basis, and may be subject to a penalty</p>
<p>Criteria that must be met to pass</p> <p>Students must complete all elements of the course to pass the class.</p>

Grading Scale

Grade	Grade Point Value	4-Point Range	Percent	Description
A+	4.00	4.00	95-100	Outstanding - evaluated by instructor
A	4.00	3.85-4.00	90-94.99	Excellent - superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter
A-	3.70	3.50-3.84	85-89.99	Very good performance
B+	3.30	3.15-3.49	80-84.99	Good performance
B	3.00	2.85-3.14	75-79.99	Satisfactory performance
B-	2.70	2.50-2.84	70-74.99	Minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies
C+	2.30	2.15-2.49	65-69.99	All final grades below B- are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements.
C	2.00	1.85-2.14	60-64.99	
C-	1.70	1.50-1.84	55-59.99	
D+	1.30	1.15-1.49	50-54.99	
D	1.00	0.50-1.14	45-49.99	
F	0.00	0-0.49	0-44.99	

A student who receives a "C+" or lower in any one course will be required to withdraw regardless of their grade point average (GPA) unless the program recommends otherwise. If the program permits the student to retake a failed course, the second grade will replace the initial grade in the calculation of the GPA, and both grades will appear on the transcript.

The School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape will not permit the Flexible Grade Option (CG Grade) for any course offered by the School. (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/salp-3-3.html>)

University of Calgary Policies and Supports

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