

Spring 2015

Sustainable Development

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Sustainable Development
The School of Diplomacy and International Relations
Seton Hall University
DIPL 3201 AA
Spring 2015

Dr. Naaborle Sackeyfio

Tuesdays 11:00am-1:30pm, Duffy Hall, Rm. 61

Office Hours: Thursdays 3:30-5:00pm and by appointment-McQuaid Hall Rm.107

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Course Description

Since the dawn of industrialization, much of the world became interconnected in ways that produced significant changes for political economy across the globe. Factory production, the internationalization of capital, cross border flows and the movement of goods and people linked the world like never before. This largely transformational process resulted in diversification of economic processes that required considerable human capital and resources. In an increasingly globalized world populated by a little over 7 billion people, one of the foremost challenges facing humanity is the idea of sustainable development—how to utilize and replenish existing resources such as water, land, crops and in short food sources in a shrinking planet. This course appropriately examines concepts and approaches to understanding sustainable development in the 21st century. We will explore the role of international organizations and economic institutions in framing sustainable development in the past century to illuminate prevailing debates about the nature and objectives of sustainable development. Additionally, broad areas of focus will center on food security, debates about climate change, water security, energy and the global commons. The course will consider the role of sustainable development utilizing a historical lens, economics, urban development and international relations perspectives. The course will draw on interdisciplinary readings and incorporate news articles, current events to frame our understanding of sustainable development as a multi-faceted aspect of political economy.

*Please note that I may make adjustments to the syllabus during the course of the semester.

Required Texts

Robert Stavins (eds), *Economics of the Environment*, New York: W.W. Norton Company, 2012

Stephen M. Wheeler and Timothy Beatley, (eds). *Sustainable Urban Development Reader*, London: Routledge, 2014

Course goals

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Describe and explain major concepts, theories and approaches and contending debates about sustainable development
- Critique contending debates about the nature of sustainable development

- Assess the relationship between local, global and transnational institutions in shaping/framing perspectives and outcomes related to sustainable development measures.

*During the course of the semester, supplementary reading materials *may* be included for our class discussions.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. **Attendance and participation-** It is imperative that you attend class **on time**, regularly, complete the readings and actively participate in class discussions. The penalty for excessive absence considered beyond two classes is a reduction in your attendance grade for the semester.
2. **Paper:** A 7-10 page **analytical paper** is due in class on **April 14th**. Elements of an effective, well written paper will be discussed prior to submission; to this end, a sample paper will be provided and discussed in class. Topic selection is open, but i must focus on some aspect of the practice of sustainable development and I will hand out a list of suggested topics at a date to be determined. Writing is a process that involves several steps, which include outlining, drafting, editing and revision. In order to help you write effective papers, all students are required to submit a typed copy of your topic (about a paragraph) and outline for approval, a date to be determined. You are expected to use at least 7-10 sources and from databases such as JSTOR or Academic Search Premier. You must include a bibliography and acceptable citation styles include APA or Chicago style only. Style guides are available at the library, bookstore, or online at <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/>. Please Avoid Wikipedia. Any questions regarding the Analytical paper are welcome and a sample paper will be discussed during the course of the semester.
3. **Presentations/Debates-**Students will present on an issue/case study of sustainable development. I will hand out a suggested list of topics and if assign all students to respective groups at a date to be determined with the selection of times via lottery. Guidelines, expectations and a rubric will also be provided. Additionally, I will hand out a set of guidelines and format prior to when the presentations or debates begin. *Your presentations or debates are designed to fulfill the School's oral proficiency requirement.
4. The **midterm** and **final** exams will be based on lecture material and assigned readings with the format TBD (either in-class or take home essays). Each counts for 25%. Please note that if the final exam is in class, the University not the professor determines the date and time. In all fairness to students, I am not able to grant separate exam times or alternate arrangements should the exam be taken in class (unless you have a documented emergency that arises). It is imperative then that you plan your end of semester activities with this in mind to avoid a time conflict.

COURSE POLICY

5. In an effort to be considerate to fellow classmates and the professor, it is expected

that once class begins cell phones are cut off or placed on a silent ring tone.

6. From time to time, I may include articles accessible in PDF form. I may periodically include articles accessible on **blackboard, through the library or other sources**. During the course of the semester, we may also watch a few documentaries time permitting.
7. **Missed exam policy**-Students who miss an exam owing to unexpected circumstances should notify me as soon as possible. However, accommodations for makeup exams will be made only in the case of a documented emergency.
8. **Late Assignments**- except in the case of a documented emergency. Late assignments handed in *after three days* will result in a letter grade reduction. All assignments are to be handed to me in class. Hence I will only accept assignments handed to me personally or left in my mailbox at McQuaid Hall per my specification.
9. **Disabilities**-Let me know of any disabilities that require prescribed attention and keep in mind that your disability should be on file with the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS), which is located in Duffy Hall, Room 67. To receive assistance, please self-identify. The staff at DSS will help you to develop a plan for accommodations. For more information contact DSS at (973) 313-6003.
10. Students are expected to honor the standards of academic integrity as outlined in the University catalog. Any work, drawn from sources other than one's own must be properly documented-that is cited and attributed accurately. If any policies seem unclear, feel free to contact the professor for additional clarification. Please review the university's policies on academic integrity by visiting: http://diplomacy.shu.edu/academics_integrity.html. In advance of your research paper I will discuss key ways to achieve and maintain academic integrity.
11. **Laptops**- Laptops are allowed for note taking **on the condition that** they do not distract you from participation in discussion. *However, this policy is subject to change at any time during the semester.
12. **Emergency conditions:** In case of unexpected conditions be it weather or otherwise that may possibly disrupt our regular schedule please check your email and/or the School Administrator before class for any updates.
13. **Email Policy**- I will do my best to get back to you within a minimum of 24 hours. ***However, I am not available on the weekends** and any emails sent over the course of the weekend will be answered at the beginning of the following week.

Grading:

Attendance and participation	10%
Midterm	25%
Analytical Paper	20%
Presentations/Debate	20%
Final	25%
Total	100%

Evaluation: Final Grades will based on the following scale:

A 94-96	B+87-89	C+ 77-79	D+ 67-69
A- 90-93	B 83-86	C 73-76	D 60-66
	B- 80-82	C-70-72	F 0-59

Course schedule

Week 1 (Jan 13): **Introduction and course overview**

Week 2 (Jan 20) **Foundational Concepts**

Read pg. 3-25 in Heinberg & Lerch (PDF to be uploaded) and Read pg. 45-60 in Wheeler & Beatley (eds) (“The Development of Underdevelopment” from *Capitalism and Underdevelopment in Latin America* (1967); “Perspectives, Problems, and Models” from *The Limits of Growth* (1972) and “The Steady-State Economy” from *Toward a Steady-State Economy* (1973)

Week 3 (Jan 22) **Overview and Principles**

Read pg.3-8 Stavins

Read pg. 55-79: “The Steady-State Economy” from *Toward a Steady-State Economy* (1973); “World Commission on Environment and Development” and “The End of Nature” from *The End of Nature* (1989) and “The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development” and Introduction to Chapter 7: from *Agenda 21* (United Nations Conference on Environmental Millennium Declaration” (2002) in Wheeler & Beatley (eds)

Additional reading TBD

Week 4 (Feb 3): **Economic Development**

Read pg. 261-269 and pg. 275-285 in Wheeler & Beatley (eds): ‘The Economic System and Natural Environments’ from the Introduction and Conclusion to *Blueprint for a Sustainable Economy* (2000) by David Pearce and Edward B. Barbier; “Preparing for a New Economic Era” from *Environment and Urbanization* (1996) by David C. Korten; “Import Replacement” from *Going Local: Creating Self-Reliant Communities in a Global Age* (1998)

PDF to be uploaded from Heinberg & Lerch

Please skim, pg. 285-293 in Wheeler & Beatley (eds): Michael H. Shuman’s *The Competitiveness of Local Living Economies*

Week 5 (Feb 10) **The Costs of Environmental Protection**

PDF chapter from Heinberg and Lerch,

Chapter 4 in Stavins (pg. 61-76): “Perspectives on Pollution Abatement and Competitiveness: Theory, Data, and Analyses” by Carl Pasurka

Read Pacala and Socolow from Wheeler (pg. 93-110)

Week 6 (Feb 17) & Week 7 (Feb 24 & Feb 26): **Sustainability Planning Tools and Politics & Sustainable Urban Development Internationally**

Read pg.375-383; pg.389-399; “What is an Ecological Footprint?” from *Our Ecological Footprint* (1996) by Mathis Wackernagel and William Rees; “for Planner, Investment in Social Media Pays Dividends” from Planetizen, www.planetizen.com (2013) by Jessica Hsu and “Multilevel Governance for the Sustainability Transition” from *Globalism, Localism and Identity: Fresh Perspectives on the Transition to Sustainability* (2001)

Read pg. 422-466

***In class-midterm Review on Week 7**

Week 8 (March 3): **Midterm Exam!**

Week 9 (March 10) **Spring Break! No classes**

Week 10 (March 17) **Food, waste, and water security**

Read pgs. 339-344 in Wheeler & Beatley (eds): “The Food Movement, Rising” from *The New Yorker Review of Books* (2010) by Michael Pollan; “The Hijacking of the Global Food Supply” from *Stolen Harvest* (2000)

PDF to be uploaded from Heiberg & Lerch (eds), “Water: Adapting to a New Normal” by Sandra Postel (pg. 77-96) and “Climate Change, Peak Oil and The End of Waste” by Bill Sheehan and Helen Spiegelman (pg. 363-381) Read pg. 398-414 in Stavins: “The Economics of Managing Water Resources”.

Week 11 (March 24) **The Politics of energy and development & The Economics of Natural Resources**

Read pg.374-414 in Stavins: “Understanding Oil Price Behavior through an Analysis of a Crisis” Reading selection (PDF) from Heiberg & Lerch

Week 12 (March 31) **Corporate Social Responsibility**

Read pg.423-442 in Stavins, “Corporate Social Responsibility through an Economic Lens by Reinhardt et al, and “The (Not So) New Corporate Social Responsibility: An Empirical Perspective, by Paul R. Portney

Week 13 (April 7) **Sustainability, The Commons and Globalization**

Skim pg. 561-586 and “The Problem of the Commons: Still Unsettled after 100 years,” by Robert Stavins; and read pg. 594-627 “The Environment and Globalization”, by Jeffrey A. Frankel

Week 14 (April 14) **Global Climate Change & Economics and Environmental Policy Making**

Reading selection to be determined from Stavins, Part VIII & Read pgs. 478-480

Week 15 (April 21) **Presentations or debates**

Week 16 (April 28): **Presentations, continued; Last day of class and Final exam review!**

Final Exam: Tuesday, May 12th & Thursday May 7th