

Syllabus for MSMGT 700 Cultural and Historical Foundations of Sustainability

NOTE: This syllabus document contains the basic information about this course. The most current syllabus is available in the course.

Course Description

This course introduces students to the concept of sustainability, enabling them to comprehend, interpret, and evaluate ideas and actions in various historical and contemporary contexts, serving as the foundation for sustainable management. Humans have significantly impacted and altered their relationship with planet Earth throughout history, provoking changes in environmental and social systems that still affect us today. Due to sustainability's interdisciplinary nature, the course will not only cover how historical and cultural events have impacted sustainable development but also encourage the debate of ideas and critical assessment of individual sustainability within our communities.

Prerequisite(s)

None

Course Outcomes

Learning outcomes are provided in each lesson of the course.

Course Requirements/Components

Each week, we will follow a learning pattern to build our understanding of sustainability and how we can apply what we have learned to our lives within our communities to create a more sustainable future. You will read chapters from the book, select journal articles, and watch selected videos, giving you different perspectives to widen your horizons and sharpen your critical thinking skills. Each lesson includes an unnarrated PowerPoint presentation summarizing the assigned weekly chapter(s) of the book. They are revision and study tools, including visual aids complementing your readings.

The following activities are required:

Discussions

Discussions are critical to your successful understanding and completion of the course. A series of discussion questions will be posed to the group. You will be responsible for responding to these questions and the comments of your peers by the due dates in Canvas. All posts are graded on the quality of content, timeliness, and writing style and quality.

For your initial post, consider the question(s) posed in the lesson's discussion section and provide a 1- 2-paragraph argument. Please include and cite relevant web links or articles supporting your position. Discussion posts submitted after the due date will not be accepted.

Your reply post should respond to a classmate's initial posting or one of your posts. Posting a reply does not necessarily guarantee full credit since posts are graded on the quality of content, timeliness, and writing style (see evaluation/discussion rubric details for information). Discussion posts submitted after the due date will not be accepted.

Reflections

You will complete reflections that correspond to the course materials. The purpose of the reflections is to provide you with a record of your critical thinking development during the course and to serve as a basis for your personal sustainability plan. Each reflection is a one-page essay and is graded on the quality of content, timeliness, and writing style and quality.

Personal Sustainability Plan

You will write a paper (10 pages max., excluding appendices) designed to serve as a template for your future development as a sustainability change agent within your community. The content must reflect your personal sustainability journey as it relates to one or more of the topics covered in the course. In this paper, describe the purpose of your plan, the principles and values that guide you, and the steps you plan to take **in the next 5 years** toward these goals. Assignments are graded on the quality of content, timeliness, and writing style and quality.

Grading Policy

Activity	Points Possible
Discussions (14 @ 20 pts)	280
Reflections (8 @ 10 pts)	80
Personal Sustainability Plan	200
Total:	560

A	93-100%
A-	90-92%
B+	87-89%
B	83-86%
B-	80-82%
C+	77-79%
C	73-76%
C-	70-72%
D+	67-69%
D	63-66%

D-	60-62%
F	59 or less %