



IDS XXXX A Student's Guide to Sustainability: Changemaking and Mythbusting

Location: TBD

Meeting: TBD

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Course Description

Veganism, fast fashion, zero waste, what is sustainability anyway? Does it matter if you skip the straw? Post #ClimateMarch? Get involved with Sustainable Campus as we discuss practical ways to create a more sustainable society and deconstruct sustainability trends to dispel common sustainability myths.

A Student's Guide to Sustainability: Changemaking and Mythbusting specializes in working with first-time college students to promote academic success and sustainability learning in your freshman year and beyond. This section will specifically introduce you to programs, services and resources here at FSU to assist you in engaging in sustainability communities across campus. In addition, within this section you will create a sustainability philosophy and game plan to take advantage of these resources throughout your time here at Florida State University.

The resources and programs you will engage with will educate you about activities during and beyond your first semester. The meeting schedule will represent a wide range of potential student interests from sustainable food systems to waste management. In the first week of the course, you will complete a questionnaire so that I will have a better understanding of your interests in sustainability. This will help me to tailor the semester activities to the needs and interests of the class.

You are invited to participate in this program at no cost. By choosing to participate in this engagement program, you agree to:

- Attend guest speaker presentation sessions
- Utilize Canvas to contribute to group discussions
- Provide consistent and open-minded participation

Course Objectives

At the end of this course, you will be able to:

1. Identify ways your identity and interests intersect with the people, places and programs within the Florida State community.
2. Recognize how your interests can continue to be developed within the larger Florida State community.
3. Articulate the different ways in which Florida State calls upon you to demonstrate your learning and critical thinking skills.
4. Interact with your instructors, Florida State staff and fellow students in ways which support your goals and demonstrate the values of the Florida State community.
5. Examine and evaluate your in-class and out-of-class experiences to make meaning and find intrinsic value in your overall college experience.
6. Identify a series of short and long term academic and extracurricular steps that will help you achieve your goals while you are a part of the Florida State community.

Course Requirements

Equipment: In order to complete the discussion board assignments, you must have access to a computer with Internet. If you do not have a personal computer, there are multiple computer labs you can access throughout campus including the Strozier and Dirac libraries.

Participation: Your attendance and active participation are required both for you to succeed in the course and set you on the right path for you while here at FSU. You will see below that you need to attend class and participate or you will lose points.

1. Class participation in guest speaker presentations is essential. Students are expected to come to attend virtual meetings prepared to engage with the guest speaker, the instructors, and each other.
2. All online discussion board posts must be completed according to a timeline that will be determined the first week of the course.
3. **Only two absences (not for documented emergencies or health reasons) will be allowed. Please notify both instructors of any absences in advance of class.**

Core Assignments:

- *Guest speaker presentation attendance:* During the semester, you will have the opportunity to attend live, online guest speaker presentations and Zoom class discussions. You should plan on attending at least five presentations and discussions. Two approved absences will be accepted (let the instructors know you will not be attending in advance).
- *Discussion board posts:* During the semester you will utilize the Canvas site to contribute to 6 discussion boards. The discussion board assignments ask you to reflect on sustainability concepts, submit video presentations, or participate in other interactive activities. In addition to submitting your own post to each discussion board, you should reply to at least one other student.
- *Sustainability Philosophy:* The course will culminate in you completing a sustainability philosophy statement and game-plan for success where you will lay out the next short and long-term steps or goals you will accomplish during your time here at FSU.

Suggested Readings and Tools:

Light, R.J. (2001). Suggestions from students. In *Making the Most of College* (pp.23-44). Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

(https://www.dropbox.com/s/cevnh1uw6nhznrl/Light_Making_the_Most_of_College%20%281%29.pdf?dl=0)

Project and Time Management Tools

- **Trello**- Trello's boards, lists, and cards enable you to organize and prioritize your projects in a fun, flexible and rewarding way.
- **Asana**- Asana is an easy way for you and your team to track their work—and get results.

Evaluation and Grading Policy

The Florida State Experience is a zero-credit course, S/U graded. There are no exams. In order to receive a passing grade, you must actively participate in the Future Innovators group by contributing to in-class and Canvas-based discussion and complete the Game Plan for Innovation assignment by the end of the semester. Emergency absences may be excused, but please notify the instructor as soon as possible, preferably in advance of your absence.

Sustainability Philosophy	= 200 points
Discussion Board posts	= 150 points (6 posts @ 25 points each)
Individual Presentation Attendance	= 150 points (5 meetings @ 30 points each)
Total Available Points	= 500 points

S (satisfactory grade) = \geq 70% of all points available

U (unsatisfactory grade) = < 70% of all points available

University Attendance Policy: Excused absences include documented illness, deaths in the family and other documented crises, call to active military duty or jury duty, religious holy days, and official University activities. These absences will be accommodated in a way that does not arbitrarily penalize students who have a valid excuse. Consideration will also be given to students whose dependent children experience serious illness.

Academic Honor Policy: The Florida State University Academic Honor Policy outlines the University's expectations for the integrity of students' academic work, the procedures for resolving alleged violations of those expectations, and the rights and responsibilities of students and faculty members throughout the process. Students are responsible for reading the Academic Honor Policy and for living up to their pledge to ". . . be honest and truthful and . . . [to] strive for personal and institutional integrity at Florida State University." (Florida State University Academic Honor Policy, found at fda.fsu.edu/Academics/Academic-Honor-Policy)

Americans With Disabilities Act: Students with disabilities needing academic accommodation should: (1) register with and provide documentation to the Student Disability Resource Center; and (2) bring a letter to the instructor indicating the need for accommodation and what type. This should be done during the first week of class.

This syllabus and other class materials are available in alternative format upon request.

For more information about services available to FSU students with disabilities, contact the:

Student Disability Resource Center, 874 Traditions Way, 108 Student Services Building, Florida State University, Tallahassee FL 32306-4167

(850) 644-9566 (voice) (850) 644-8504 (TDD)

sdrc@admin.fsu.edu

disabilitycenter.fsu.edu

Syllabus Change Policy: Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) statement, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice.

Course Schedule (subject to revision)

Week One: Sustainability 101

Session Activity: Syllabus overview, group icebreakers, introduction to sustainability, **discussion board** video introduction

Theme: Changemaking, Sustainable Waste Management

Week Two: Thrifting

Session Activity: **Guest speaker presentation** from FSU Thrift Club

Week Three: Recycling

Session Activity: **Guest speaker presentation** from Sustainable Campus Operations Coordinator

Week Four: Zero Waste

Session Activity: **Discussion board** interactive zero waste challenge.

Theme: Changemaking, Sustainable Food Systems

Week Five: Sustainability and Food

Session Activity: **Guest speaker** live cooking demonstration.

Week Six: Composting

Session Activity: **Discussion board** on challenges of composting in university settings.

Week Seven: Gardening

Session Activity: **Guest speaker** presentation from the Seminole Organic Garden Coordinator.

Theme: Mythbusting, Sustainability in Advertising and Social Media

Week Eight: Greenwashing

Session Activity: **Discussion board** greenwashing example in real life.

Week Nine: Sustainability & Social Media

Session Activity: **Guest speaker** Sustainability Communications Coordinator

Week Ten: Social Justice

Session Activity: **Discussion board** on social justice topics.

Week Eleven: Topics in Sustainability

Session Activity: Interactive **Zoom meeting** on topics in sustainability.

Week Twelve: Sustainability in the News or Media

Session Activity: **Discussion board** finding and analyzing sustainability in the news or on social media

Week Thirteen: Thanksgiving

Week Fourteen: Sustainability Philosophy

Session Activity: Submit Sustainability Philosophy assignment.