

## APPLIED SUSTAINABILITY

EL 4393 CRN 26570

SPRING 2020

Syllabus Draft: Subject to Change

<b>Instructor:</b>	Peter Golding & Luis G Perez
<b>Location:</b>	PHYS SCI 314
<b>Time &amp; Dates:</b>	Friday 12:30pm – 3:00 pm
<b>Office:</b>	ENG 230F & Kelly Hall 211
<b>Office hours:</b>	Pg: M 1 to 3, T 9 to 11, F 10 to 11.45   LP: Thirty Minutes after class or by appointment
<b>Contact:</b>	Email: <a href="mailto:pgolding@utep.edu">pgolding@utep.edu</a> or 747-8125   <a href="mailto:lgperez@utep.edu">lgperez@utep.edu</a> or 747-5511

### Goals of this Course

Applied Sustainability is an interdisciplinary course that introduces both graduate and undergraduate students to evolving developments in the various environments involving sustainability. A presentation of global, regional, local and academic developments in sustainability today will foster an awareness and future interest in sustainability for more in-depth studies. The course invites individual research and creativity into areas of sustainability of interest to the student.

### Learning Outcomes

Students establish a working knowledge of the rich spectrum of sustainability principles. An in-depth knowledge of specific areas of sustainability will be achieved in the research area the student chooses out of interest. Individual reports and group presentations will be part of the course. Local issues in industry as well as campus sustainability concerns will be encouraged as report topics. Learning outcomes:

- Develop a working definition of sustainability
- Describe the environmental and social historical issues and events surrounding sustainability
- Discuss proposed principles, characteristics, policies, strategies, and agencies addressing sustainability
- Discuss the contributions of sustainability at the various levels of society
- Develop an understanding and appreciation of the true value of sustainability for individuals, organizations, governments and countries.

**Readings & Resources:** Download articles from Blackboard to prepare for assignments.

### Academic integrity

Students are expected to uphold the highest standards of academic integrity and achieve excellence on the quality of work produced by the individual. Students are to adhere to standards of integrity and ethical work. Avoid acts of dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, etc.

### Class Management

- a) Attendance: Students are encouraged to attend all class sessions. Absences are allowed for emergencies but must be justified/documentated. Late assignments will not be accepted unless justified. Participation will be part of the course grade. An unexcused absence will account for a 5-point deduction.
- c) Electronic devices: Portable digital devices will be used for research during the class. Search engines on phones will be used, individual headphones and media are not allowed without permission during the

class. Please do not text, email, answer calls, etc., unless there is an important event or emergency.

- d) Students that have a disability or need classroom accommodations, please contact The Center for Accommodations and Support Services (CASS) at phone 747-5148 or by email to [cass@utep.edu](mailto:cass@utep.edu), or visit them in UTEP Union Building East, Room 106

**Assessment and Evaluation: Grading**

Grades will be comprised of points gained through individual and teamwork activities. Grades will be determined according to the list below.

**A** = 90 - 100, **B** = 80-89, **C** = 70-79, **D** = 60-69, **F** =  $\leq$  59 points

**Assessment and Evaluation: Points**

The final grade is comprised of individual work (80 points) and teamwork (20 points) for a maximum of 100 points as follows:

**Individual work: 85 points**

Exams	(2 at 10 points)	20 points
Reports/Summaries	(2 at 10 points)	20 points
Fieldtrip Summary	(2 at 10 points)	20 Points
Participation and Attendance		20 Points
Teamwork & Final Presentation:		20 points
Total class points:		100 points

**Exams**

Two exams on sustainability terms identified by the International Society of Sustainability Professionals will be administered. Exam dates will be provided two weeks in advance. Added Doctoral requirement: Doctoral students will be charged with creating and examining terminology assets and examination processes.

**Reports from Web Searches**

Visit websites of agencies or look for information in the internet, reports, or any publication. The report will be 2-complete pages with findings and must include the references/sources. Use *Times New Roman* font style, 12-point font size and double space. Print and bring prepared reports to class. Reports will be used during class.

**Field Trips**

Teams are required to select an area within the Paso del Norte Region to conduct “Sustainability Assessment” during fieldtrips. The trips will be conducted during class time, if at all possible, on dates to be scheduled. Further visits to the field trip area may be agreed by each team. Doctoral students will be charged with providing leadership on conducting and reporting from field trips [Research record process included].

**Final Presentation**

Each team will prepare a final presentation poster that integrates readings, searches, discussions, documentaries, and the observations and information from the fieldtrip. The purpose of the poster is to assess the use of or the potential use of sustainability at the fieldtrip location. Teams will have various opportunities to prepare and edit the poster. Students are to follow the guidelines provided in the handout “Instructions for Poster Preparation” [Guidelines to be shared and provided during class].