

Minnesota State University Moorhead

SUST 200: Nature of Sustainability

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours/Week: 3

Lab Hours/Week: 0

OJT Hours/Week: *.*

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: None

MnTC Goals: Goal 02 - Critical Thinking

This course explores the concept of sustainability within the context of socio-environmental systems and examines topics of study from an individual perspective. Individual connections to sustainability issues within business, politics, and the social and natural sciences will be introduced. The trade offs (environmental, social, and economic) associated with generating and using various resources will be examined, including a recognition that all individuals do not have the same ecological footprint. Evaluating these trade offs requires a level of competency in information literacy, including identifying credible sources, and the development and application of logic and argumentation skills. Finally, we will explore what actions are possible to work towards a sustainable future. MnTC Goal 2.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 02/01/2018 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. Describe their personal connections to a variety of sustainability issues.
2. Analyze resource use patterns of different populations.
3. Utilize a socio-environmental synthesis approach to multiple sustainability issues.
4. Demonstrate critical thinking skills through analysis, oral and written communication.
5. Gather factual information and apply it to a given problem in a manner that is relevant, clear, comprehensive, and conscious of possible bias in the information selected.
6. Imagine and seek out a variety of possible goals, assumptions, interpretations, or perspectives which can give alternative meanings or solutions to given situations or problems.
7. Analyze the logical connections among the facts, goals, and implicit assumptions relevant to a problem or claim; generate and evaluate implications that follow from them.
8. Recognize and articulate the value assumptions which underlie and affect decisions, interpretations, analyses, and evaluations made by ourselves and others.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 02 - Critical Thinking

1. Gather factual information and apply it to a given problem in a manner that is relevant, clear, comprehensive, and conscious of possible bias in the information selected.
2. Imagine and seek out a variety of possible goals, assumptions, interpretations, or perspectives which can give alternative meanings or solutions to given situations or problems.
3. Analyze the logical connections among the facts, goals, and implicit assumptions relevant to a problem or claim; generate and evaluate implications that follow from them.
4. Recognize and articulate the value assumptions which underlie and affect decisions, interpretations, analyses, and evaluations made by ourselves and others.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted