

Independent Capstone Project

Sustainability Studies 499

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Course Materials:

All Materials for coursework are provided. Individual projects may require specific materials.

Course Description:

In this course students apply lessons from the sustainability minor in the context of the major discipline or other arena, supported by a mentor. Students may choose a research, creative expression or community intervention project

Objectives:

This course contributes to the Sustainability Studies Program mission and goals. The UNM Sustainability Studies Program offers an undergraduate minor degree to students in any department or college on campus. We provide interdisciplinary, hands-on, community-engaged learning that informs students' academic work, future careers, and personal lives.

Prerequisites:

SUST 434

Grading:

Please see the course schedule for a breakdown by assignment of the overall course grade.

A – 90-100%; B – 80-89%; C – 70-79%; D – 60-69%; F – < 60%

Student Support:

If you have a physical, learning, or psychological disability and require accommodations, please let me know as soon as possible.

Accessibility Services (Mesa Vista Hall 2021, 277-3506) provides academic support to students who have disabilities. If you think you need alternative accessible formats for undertaking and completing coursework, you should contact this service right away to assure your needs are met in a timely manner. If you need local assistance in contacting Accessibility Services, see the Bachelor and Graduate Programs office.

Hardship:

Recent research shows that many students at UNM do not always have adequate food and housing (see the [UNM Basic Needs Project website](#) and report). These hardships create barriers to academic success and physical and mental wellbeing. There are resources available on campus that can help, including the [UNM Lobo Food Pantry](#), currently open by appointment as they move to their new location in the SUB; the [Mobile Lobo Food Pantry](#), available on Tuesdays at 9:00 am at EXPO NM (300 San Pedro Dr NE); UNM Federal [CARES Act funds](#); and assistance with applying for SNAP benefits available through the [Women's Resource Center \(WRC\)](#), available for all students, regardless of gender.

These resources tend to be underutilized so do not hesitate to take advantage of them, and help raise awareness across campus. If lack of resources prevents you from accessing the required texts, attending class, or otherwise completing your work, please see me and I will work with you to help find ways to support you.

Title IX:

Title IX prohibitions on sex discrimination include various forms of sexual misconduct, such as sexual assault, rape, sexual harassment, domestic and dating violence, and stalking. Current UNM policy designates instructors as required reporters, which means that if I am notified (outside of classroom activities) about any Title IX violations, I must report this information to the Title IX coordinator. If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted and would like to receive support and academic advocacy, there are numerous confidential routes available to you. For example, you can contact the Women's Resource Center, the LGBTQ Resource Center, Student Health and Counseling (SHAC), or LoboRESPECT. LoboRESPECT can be contacted on their 24-hour crisis line, (505) 277-2911 and online at loborespect@unm.edu. You can receive non-confidential support and learn more about Title IX through the Title IX Coordinator at (505) 277-5251 and <http://oeo.unm.edu/title-ix/>. Reports to law enforcement can be made to UNM Police Department at (505) 277-2241.

Course Fees:

The Department of Geography & Environmental Studies (in which Sustainability Studies is housed) assesses a curriculum fee of \$50 on every undergraduate class (excluding independent study and

internship credits). Because you have enrolled in this course and have paid a curriculum fee, you are entitled to access a variety of departmental resources and facilities, as detailed on our website: <http://geography.unm.edu/resources/for-students/how-are-course-fees-spent.html>

Student Code of Conduct:

Students should exhibit respectful classroom values and behavior by:

- engaging in appropriate communication, interaction and preparedness;
- demonstrating trust, respect and civility;
- approaching course content as important and necessary;
- meeting all deadlines for assignments and team member obligations;
- turning off cell phones in class;
- avoiding unnecessary talking; and
- not reading outside material or doing other work during class.

Students should contribute to a positive learning environment by:

- arriving, attending and departing class in a respectful manner;
- taking responsibility for team and individual assignments; and
- developing cooperative relationships with other students and faculty.

Students should support a professional learning environment by:

- avoiding inappropriate language;
- refraining from unrealistic expectations in dealing with administration, faculty and staff; and
- communicating with the instructor if changes could be made to improve the learning environment.

Students must uphold the academic integrity standards expected by the University of New Mexico. Academic integrity is conceptualized as doing and taking responsibility for one's own work. This includes individual assignments and, for group assignments, the assumption of responsibility for work that is turned in as the "work product" of a team. Each team member is equally responsible for the work presented as the output of that team's effort. When using others work, be sure to give proper credit to the author. Please see the professor or a librarian for more information on how to cite works. For more information on UNM's standards for academic integrity, see the policy on academic dishonesty at: <http://www.unm.edu/~sac/policies.html#academicdishonesty>.