

PROGRAMA PUENTE

Sustainable Development

Class Meeting Information

Masters Degree in Economics with specialization in Agribusiness and Rural Development. (IARD).
Experience in economics applied to sustainable development, strategic planning, finances and impact assessments.
International activity in Africa, Europe, United States of America and South America.
Good communication and intercultural skills
Interest Areas: Sustainable economic development, social economy , renewable energy, strategic marketing, and public policy.

Course Description

This course will help students to realize about the problems that affect our planet such as climate change, pollution, greenhouse effect, deforestation, etc., and how global society should deal with them day by day. Sustainable development is a powerful conception of “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of the future generations to meet their own needs”. It is an important tool for facing man-made effects on the environment through its three dimensions: environmental, social and economic. The objective is to learn how to face human life in each place we live in under the conception of sustainability, involving the simultaneous pursuit of economic prosperity, environmental quality and social equity but also considering the cultural dimension.

Prerequisites — Classes or Knowledge Required for this Course

No prerequisites are required for this course. We only ask for students with interest of taking care of environment and helping their actual societies, and future ones, through the learning of sustainable development.

Course Objectives

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

Know the basic concepts of sustainable development.

- Learn about dimensions and challenges of sustainability.
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- Understand the difference between development vs. sustainability, and the relation between sustainability and resources.
- Recognize international agreements as a tool for decision making in “green” public policies.
- Have a general overview of the sustainable development concept, but also local views and initiatives in: European Union, Latin America, Argentina, Mendoza.
- Learn about environmental challenges worldwide.
- Learn about the ecological footprint, the water footprint and corporate social responsibility (CSR) tools for developing “greener” industries.
- Learn about sustainability initiatives in different industries in Mendoza province and in Argentina (mining, wine making, others).

Course Text or Online Resources

The texts for this course are:

- Our Common Future (Brundtland Report). Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development-United Nations, 1987.
- Rio Declaration on Environment and Development. Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. UN General Assembly, 1992.
- Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change. UK National Archives, 2006.

Optional Text Resources:

- List of official web pages will be provided by the teacher for research:

<http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/>

<http://www.uncsd2012.org/>

<http://www.ipcc.ch/>

<http://unfccc.int/2860.php>

and more...

Evaluation and Grading

Evaluation of Student Performance

Classroom Participation/Attendance	45%
Research Monograph Presentation	25%
Final Exam	30%

100%



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Grading Scale

A	=	90%	–	100%
B	=	80%	–	89%
C	=	70%	–	79%
C	=	73%	–	76%
D	=	60%	–	69%
F	=	59%	or less	

Code of Conduct

All participants in the course are bound by the Universidad de Congreso, found at <http://www.ucongreso.org/institucional/la-universidad/bienvenida>

Netiquette

When we have a need for communication that is private, whether personal, interpersonal, or professional, we will use individual email or telephone. Our primary means of communication is written. The written language has many advantages: more opportunity for reasoned thought, more ability to go in-depth, and more time to think through an issue before posting a comment. However, written communication also has certain disadvantages, such a lack of the face-to-face signaling that occurs through body language, intonation, pausing, facial expressions, and gestures. As a result, please be aware of the possibility of miscommunication and compose your comments in a positive, supportive, and constructive manner.

Academic Honesty Policy

The University is an institution of learning, research, and scholarship predicated on the existence of an environment of honesty and integrity. As members of the academic community, faculty, students, and administrative officials share responsibility for maintaining this environment. It is essential that all members of the academic community subscribe to the ideal of academic honesty and integrity and accept individual responsibility for their work. Academic dishonesty is unacceptable and will not be tolerated at the Universidad de Congreso. Cheating, forgery, dishonest conduct, plagiarism, and collusion in dishonest activities erode the University's educational, research, and social roles.

If students who knowingly or intentionally conduct or help another student perform dishonest conduct, acts of cheating, or plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary action at the discretion of Universidad de Congreso.

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Course Outline

Orientation Week ((First Week of Course)

Orientation Week Objectives:

- o Navigate around the course site.
- o Post self-introduction message to a discussion forum.
- o Describe the contents of the course syllabus.
- o Introductory videos about the Sustainable Development concept.

Lesson 1 – The Environment - Concepts.

- o **Lesson Learning Objectives:**
 - Identify the fundamental concepts related to environment and sustainability.
 - Introduce to the Environment and Development discussion.
- o **Method(s) of Instruction:**
 - Power Point Presentation
 - Discussion Forum

Lesson 2 – What is Sustainable Development?

- o **Lesson Learning Objectives:**
 - Identify the Sustainable Development main concept and other conceptions.
 - Learn about dimensions and challenges of Sustainability.
- o **Method(s) of Instruction:**
 - Power Point Presentation
 - Discussion Forum

Lesson 3– Introduction to Global Environmental Issues.

- o **Lesson Learning Objectives:**
 - Identify the Climate Change and Green House Effect concepts and other environmental problems.
- o **Method(s) of Instruction:**
 - Power Point Presentation
 - Discussion Forum

Lesson 4 – International Agreements on Sustainable Development.

- o **Lesson Learning Objectives:**
 - Recognize international agreements between states which help establishing management policies to Sustainability.

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- **Method(s) of Instruction:**
 - Power Point Presentation
 - UN documentaries and presentations.
 - Discussion Forum

Lesson 5 – International Agreements on Sustainable Development and Initiatives.

- **Lesson Learning Objectives:**
 - Recognize international agreements between states which help establishing management policies to Sustainability.
 - Learn how United Nations Organization works for achieving sustainability worldwide. – Goals. – The Millennium Development Goals. - “Greening Initiatives”. Sustainable development in European Union.
- **Method(s) of Instruction:**
 - Power Point Presentation.
 - UN and EU documentaries and presentations.
 - Discussion Forum

Lesson 6 – Taking Care of Our Home.

- **Lesson Learning Objectives:**
 - Review of the diversity of life on Earth and how humanity is threatening the ecological balance of the planet.
- **Method(s) of Instruction:**
 - Documentary film “Home” (Yann Arthus-Bertrand, 2009).
 - Discussion Forum.
 - Research Monograph Presentation.

Lesson 7 – Sustainable Development in Latin America.

- **Lesson Learning Objectives:**
 - Have a general overview of Latin America transformation process to Sustainable Development.
- **Method(s) of Instruction:**
 - Power Point Presentation
 - Discussion Forum

Lesson 8 – Argentina Environmental Issues.

- **Lesson Learning Objectives:**
 - Identify local environmental problems and Sustainable Initiatives needed.
 - Argentina “status” on Climate Change.
- **Method(s) of Instruction:**
 - Power Point Presentation
 - Discussion Forum

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Lesson 9 – Local Initiatives on Sustainable Development: Argentina.

- **Lesson Learning Objectives:**
 - Identify national and local case studies in different industries with Sustainable Initiatives: mining, oil, agriculture.
- **Method(s) of Instruction:**
 - Power Point Presentation
 - Discussion Forum

Lesson 10 – Mendoza Environmental Issues.

- **Lesson Learning Objectives:**
 - Identify local environmental problems and Sustainable Initiatives needed.
 - Case studies.
- **Method(s) of Instruction:**
 - Power Point Presentation.
 - Video.
 - Discussion Forum

Lesson 11 – Local Initiatives on Sustainable Development: Mendoza province.

- **Lesson Learning Objectives:**
 - Identify local case studies in the wine industry with Sustainable Initiatives.
 - The ecological footprint, the water footprint and corporate social responsibility (CSR) tools for developing “greener” wineries.
- **Method(s) of Instruction:**
 - Power Point Presentation.
 - Discussion Forum.

Lesson 12 – Local Initiatives on Sustainable Development: Mendoza province II.

- **Lesson Learning Objectives:**
 - Identify local case studies in other local industries with Sustainable Initiatives: tourism, mining, oil.
- **Method(s) of Instruction:**
 - Power Point Presentation.
 - Videos.
 - Discussion Forum.

Lesson 13 – Documentary film “An Inconvenient Truth” (Davis Guggenheim and Al Gore, 2006).

- **Lesson Learning Objectives:**
 - Raise awareness of climate change.
- **Method(s) of Instruction:**
 - Discussion Forum.

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Lesson 14 – What have you learned? How would you help with Sustainable Initiatives?

- **Lesson Learning Objectives:**
 - Student's research monograph evaluation.
- **Method(s) of Instruction:**
 - Research Monograph Presentation (based on "Home" documentary film).
 - Discussion Forum.

Lesson 15 – Field Trip + "The Culture of Wine Production and Tourism to a Winery": Winery.

- **Lesson Learning Objectives:**
 - Identify Sustainable Development initiatives learned.
- **Method(s) of Instruction:**
 - Field Trip