

## ***Topics in Sustainable Development***

ARC 386M-01045, MAN 385-04145, LAW 379M-27355, CRP 383-01385, PA 388K-62565



**Spring 2006**

**Dr. Steven A. Moore**  
**Thursday 3:30-6:30 PM**  
**Battle Hall 101**

**Course Description:**

This course is a trans-disciplinary graduate level seminar designed to explore the concept and practice of sustainable development from a variety of competing perspectives. The class will be composed of students representing business, architecture, planning, law, public policy, geography and other disciplines and will be taught by UT faculty and outside speakers representing the full range of interest and experience with sustainable development.

**Class Size:** generally limited to 25 (5 students from 5 disciplines).

**Class meetings:** Please note that the class will generally meet on Thursday, 3:30-6:30. Exceptions may be made to accommodate the schedule of visiting lecturers.

**Weekly writing assignment:** Each week individual students will write a 1-2 page critical synopsis of the required reading as preparation for class discussion.

**Final Project:** A final research project will be conducted by transdisciplinary teams of 4-5 students. No team should have more than two members from a single discipline. Research will be directed at solving real problems in the community in a sustainable manner. Four research problems are outlined in a preliminary manner on the course's Blackboard site. Students may, however, propose other research problems.

In general, the methods of *participatory action research* should guide inquiry. Rather than define the concept of sustainability in purely linguistic terms you will work with community members to define the problem and propose to solve it in social, environmental, legal, spatial and economic terms. Research teams (formed by February 2) must submit their proposals in three phases: as an abstract (Feb. 16), a narrative outline (March 23), and as a final report (May 4). Our Teaching Assistant, Barbara Brown, will facilitate the construction of research teams via Blackboard and will meet with teams as required.

## Course Reading

In general, readings required for each week are electronically available via "blackboard." < <http://www.utexas.edu/cc/blackboard/>> Reserve articles and/or texts are those written by, or suggested by our visiting lecturers.

Each section of the course will also be supplemented by major texts in the field. These are required as background reading and should be completed before each section begins. Brief reading reviews (3-5 pgs.) are due for these texts on the dates indicated on the course schedule.

### Part 1: Introduction

World Commission on Environment and Development: *Our Common Future* (Oxford, UK: 1987).

United Nations Conference on Environment and Development: *Agenda 21*. (New York. 1992). Available at:

< <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/agenda21/index.htm> >  
as of 8 November 2005.

### Part 2: Public Policy and SD

Paul Hawkin, Amory Lovins and Hunter Lovins, *Natural Capitalism: Creating the Next Industrial Revolution* (Boston, MA: Little Brown, 1999).

Schatzberg, Eric. Book review of *Natural Capitalism in Technology and Culture* 43:1, pp. 218-221.

Available at:

[http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/technology\\_and\\_culture/v043/43.1schatzberg.html](http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/technology_and_culture/v043/43.1schatzberg.html)

### Part 3: Sustainable built environment

Guy, Simon and Steven A. Moore. *Sustainable Architectures: Natures and Cultures in Europe and North America* (London: Routledge/Spon, 2005). [not available at the Co-op]

### Part 4: Activism and equity in SD

Ageyman, Julian; Robert Buillard and Bob Evans. *Just Sustainability: Development in an unequal World* (London: Earthscan, 2003).

**Recommended additional reading:**

Prugh, Thomas; Robert Costanza and Herman Daly, *The Local Politics of Global Sustainability* (Washington, DC: Island Press, 2000).

Eckstein, Barbara and James Throgmorton. *Story and Sustainability* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press 2003).

Wackernagel, Mathis and William E. Rees, *Our Ecological Footprint: reducing human impact on the earth* (Gabriola Island, BC; Philadelphia, PA : New Society Publishers, 1996).

**Other web resources:**

business related bibliography available at: <http://www.cleanerproduction.com/>

**Course schedule:**

Classes meet Thursday 3:30-6:30 unless noted otherwise

		<b>1) <u>Introduction</u></b>
Topic 1:	1-19	<i>Interdisciplinary Origins of the Concept</i> , Dr. Steven Moore, UT/SOA
Topic 2:	1-26	<i>The Philosophical Foundations of the Environmental Crisis</i> , Dr Andrew Light, NYU  reviews due: <i>Our Common Future, Agenda 21</i>
		<b>2) <u>Public Policy and SD</u></b>
Topic 3:	2-2	<i>Public Policy and a Sustainable Economy</i> Dr. David Eaton, UT/LBJ
Topic 4:	2-9	<i>Public Health and the City</i> Dr. Tracy McMillan, UT/CRP, PH, ENG  review due: <i>Natural Capitalism</i>
		<b>3) <u>Sustainable built environment</u></b>

Topic 5:	2-17	<i>Native to Nowhere: re-placing sustainability</i> Dr. Timothy Beatley, UVA/Planning
Topic 6:	2-23	<i>Full Circle: Public Responsibility versus Privatization of Water Supplies in the United States</i> Martin Melosi, UH/History
Topic 7:	3-2	<i>Recycling New Orleans</i> Dr. Brad Guy, Penn State Hamer Center  review due: <i>Sustainable Architectures</i>
Topic 8:	3-9	<i>Austin's Green Building Program</i> Richard Morgan, City of Austin
	3-16	Spring break—no class
Topic 9:	3-23	<i>Models and Lists of SD</i> Steven Moore, UT Architecture and Planning
		<b><u>4) The Question of Equity</u></b>
Topic 10:	3-30	<i>Public Participation and SD</i> Sergio Palleroni  review due: <i>Just Sustainability</i>
Topic 11:	4-6	<i>Using Indicators of Sustainability: Theory and Practice</i> Jim Walker, Central Texas SIP
Topic 12:	4-13	<i>The Three (or four) E's in Dynamic Competition</i> Dr. Michael Oden, UT/SOA
Topic 13:	4-20	<i>Just Sustainability</i> Dr. Julian Agyeman, Tufts Univ.
		<b><u>Conclusion</u></b>
Topic 14:	4-27	<i>Summary discussion</i> Dr. Steven Moore
Topic 15:	5-4	<i>Group Research Reports</i>

**Performance evaluation:**

As upper level graduate students you have considerable flexibility with regard to your schedule. However, attendance and promptness is expected. Final course grades will be based upon:

**30% individual class participation,**

**30% individual weekly writing assignments, and**

**40% final research projects.**

Individual grades for group research will be determined by instructor observation and peer evaluation.

In accordance with UT guidelines, grades will be given using (+) and (-) values. For information see:

[http://www.utexas.edu/ogs/student\\_services/academic\\_policies/plus\\_minus.html](http://www.utexas.edu/ogs/student_services/academic_policies/plus_minus.html)

**Office hours:**

T/Th 2:00—3:00 Goldsmith 4.134 and by appointment

Tel. 471.0184 Email <[samoore@mail.utexas.edu](mailto:samoore@mail.utexas.edu)>

The University of Texas at Austin provides upon request appropriate academic accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. For more information, contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 471-6259, 471-4641.