

**Course Code & No. - Section:** SUST 201 – 1 / FNAR 480 – 3

**Course Title (Credits):** Social Justice and Sustainability (3) /  
*Special Topics: Justice and Sustainability in Art (3)*

**Term / Year:** Spring / 2020

**Course Ref. No. (CRN):** 10299 / 10231

**Class Meeting Time:** Monday and Wednesday, 3 – 4:45 PM

**Location:** Patterson 211

**Instructor:** Anza Jarschke

**Phone:** 775.881.7525 (office)

**Email:** ajarschke@sierranevada.edu

**Office Hours:** Monday-Thursday by appointment, Holman Arts and Media Center, 2nd floor

**Course Description:**

This interdisciplinary course introduces students to the social justice side of sustainability studies, using core concepts, strategies and critical analysis drawn from sociology, political science, and environmental studies to investigate the meaning, goals, and application of social sustainability, particularly through the lens of art. Through readings, class discussion, case studies, a research project and active/reflective assignments, this class challenges students to examine how social sustainability is influenced by social norms, ecosystem health, biodiversity, politics, cultural diversity, as well as environmental and economic justice. Students will address the importance of social and environmental change, and of being a contributing member of the global community.

**Course Goals:**

The primary objective of Sustainability 201 is to introduce students to the social side of sustainability studies. Upon successful completion of this course, a student will be able to:

- ◆ Understand, analyze, and compare a range of social movements of the past 60 years and apply lessons from these movements to current situations.
- ◆ Define the basic principles of social sustainability, demonstrate interdisciplinary work, and articulate what makes social sustainability a unique interdisciplinary field of study.
- ◆ Assess the state of the field today and illuminate examples of individuals, groups, and organization that encompass the field of social sustainability.
- ◆ Convey problems and issues that have led to the need for social change in society, recognize the barriers to implement progressive policy changes, and locate opportunities/constraints with strategies for achieving justice in sustainability.
- ◆ Apply critical examination and analyses to complex problems, case studies, and social situations with the ability to formulate sustainable solutions to diverse multifaceted social conflicts.
- ◆ Understand their role and ability to be vehicles for positive social change in society.

**Texts:** There is no required text to be purchased for this class. All readings and content will be provided to you via the course Canvas.

### Course Organization, Evaluation Methods, and Grading:

Class-time will be divided into lectures, discussions, and activities. There will be a total of 1000 points allocated from the following evaluation methods:

In-Class Activities/Participation	250 (10 pts/day)	93 – 100	A	73 – 76	C
Daily Notecard	200 (10 pts/each)	90 – 92	A-	70 – 73	C-
Media Share	25	87 – 89	B+	67 – 69	D+
On-Off Assignments	75				
Midterm	200	83 – 86	B	63 – 66	D
Final Project	250	80 – 82	B-	60 – 62	D-
		77 – 79	C+	59 or ↓	F
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1000</b>				

### Evaluation Methods Explained:

**In-Class Activities/Participation (250 points):** This is a participation and discussion based class, making any absence is impactful on your learning experience. *Each unexcused absence in excess of two will result in a full final letter grade deduction. Every two unexcused late arrivals will count as one full unexcused absence.* **Notify your professor in advance of class (via phone, email, or in person) if you are expecting an absence or late arrival in order for it to be excused.** Everyone is expected to come to class prepared and ready to participate actively in class discussion. All students must participate in each class, unless address with professor directly. This participation is expected to be based on an informed familiarity and thoughtful engagement with the pre-assigned readings and content.

**Daily Notecard (200 points):** In order to prepare for our discussion of the assigned readings and content, you are asked to submit a notecard at the start of each class. This notecard will include: *your name, due date, the topic, 3 key points from materials, 1 significant sentence (including where it came from), and 1 question/critical thought you had as a result of the content.* This information will help prepare you for the discussion, and give me information to help craft the conversation we will have to better suit where the class is coming from for each class. Notecards will be graded according to the quality of your synthesis and questions/reactions, so please put effort into this.

**Media Share (25 points):** Each student will sign up for a class where they will bring a piece of artistic media (e.g., visual art, performance, dance, music) consumed in your daily life to share with the rest of the class. We will briefly discuss the social justice and sustainability interactions. Be prepared to help lead the discussion.

**One-Off Assignments (75 points):** There will be the occasional assignments to help us dive deeper into material. More details will be provided regarding these assignments.

**Midterm (200 points):** Choose a social movement from the provided list (or present other ideas to the professor), offer a 7-10 minute oral presentation to the class giving a birds eye view of the movement, focused on the timeline of the movement, major events, major players, and significant artworks of the movement.

**Final Project (250 points):** There will be no final exam for Sustainability 201. In absence of a final exam, your requirement will be to produce a zine about a topic of your choosing that is at an intersection of social justice and sustainability. The zine should prioritize marginalized knowledge and truth, with an inclusion of artwork surrounding the topic. Your media creation will include background information as well as context and actionable items. You will submit your zine ahead of the final presentation, which is mandatory; you will receive feedback that must be integrated into the final submission and presentation.

**Course Canvas:** The course Canvas will be used to retrieve readings and content, turn in assignments, post announcements, other course materials, presentations, assignments, etc. You are expected to access the Canvas to utilize it regularly.

**Sanctions for Cheating and/or Plagiarism:**

The Honor Code The faculty of SNC believes students must be held to high standards of integrity in all aspects of college life in order to promote the educational mission of the College and to encourage respect for the rights of others. Each student brings to the SNC community unique skills, talents, values and experiences which, when expressed within the community, contribute to the quality of the educational environment and the growth and development of the individual. Students share with members of the faculty, administration and staff the responsibility for creating and maintaining an environment conducive to learning and personal development, where actions are guided by mutual respect, integrity, responsibility and trust. The faculty and students alike must make diligent efforts to ensure high standards are upheld by their colleagues and peers as well as themselves. Therefore faculty and students accept responsibility for maintaining these standards at Sierra Nevada College and are obligated to comply with its regulations and procedures, which they are expected to read and understand.

**Consequences of Violating the Student Honor Code:**

SNC students and faculty share the responsibility for maintaining an environment of academic honesty. Thus, all are responsible for knowing and abiding by the SNC Faculty/Student Honor Code published in the current SNC Catalog. Faculty are responsible for presenting the Honor Code and the consequences of violating it to students at the start of their classes AND for reporting all incidents of academic dishonesty to the Provost. Students are responsible for knowing what constitutes CHEATING, PLAGIARISM and FABRICATION and for refraining from these and other forms of academic dishonesty. Violations of the Honor Code become part of a student's academic record.

**1st Offense:** Student receives a zero for assignment/exam and counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.

**2nd Offense:** Student fails course and receives counseling with faculty on the honor code, consequences for violating the honor code, and the value of academic honesty in learning.

**3rd Offense:** Student is expelled.

**Academic Integrity:**

**Definition of Plagiarism:** In an instructional setting, plagiarism occurs when a person presents or turns in work that includes someone else's ideas, language, or other (not common-knowledge) material without giving appropriate credit to the source. Plagiarism will not be tolerated and may result in failing this course, and may also result in further consequences.

**Academic dishonesty:** A student violates academic integrity when he or she claims credit for any work not his or her own (*words, ideas, answers, data, program codes, music, etc.*) or when a student misrepresents any academic performance. Work deemed a product of academic dishonesty will receive a zero and points equivalent to the value of the assignment will be subtracted from those already earned in the course.

**Attendance and Absences:**

Excused absences are allowed only in cases of SNC athletics, documented illness, approved College events, job or graduate school interviews and serious family emergency. Because this class meets only once a week and some of the class activities and assignments are especially difficult to make up, your instructor requests that excused absences be avoided. If you must miss class for an excused reason you will not be penalized for assignments missed, however, you will still be held responsible for completing them and learning the material covered during your absence.

**Athletics Excused Absences:**

The Athletic Director notifies faculty members of student athletes with excused absences for training and competition. This email excuses the student athlete from class attendance, but not from doing the assigned work. It is the student athlete's responsibility to meet with professors prior to the excused absence for missed work and/or alternate assignments. If a student athlete fails to meet with the professor prior to the absence, make-up work is not available.

**ADA Accommodations:**

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, students with a documented disability are eligible for support services and accommodations. If a student wishes to request an accommodation, please contact the Director of Academic Support Services, Henry Conover, at (775) 831-1314 x7534, [hconover@sierranevada.edu](mailto:hconover@sierranevada.edu) or go to the OASIS offices on the third floor of Prim Library within the first week of the semester.

**The SNC Email System:**

The SNC email system is the official communication vehicle among students, faculty members, and administrative staff and is designed to protect the confidentiality of student information as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 Act (FERPA). Students should check their college email accounts daily during the school year. Students have a right to forward their SNC email to another email account (for example, @hotmail or @gmail). However, confidentiality of student information protected by FERPA cannot be guaranteed for SNC e-mail forwarded to an outside vendor. Having email redirected does not absolve a student from the responsibilities associated with official communication sent to his or her SNC email account.

**The Mission Statement:**

Sierra Nevada College graduates will be educated to be scholars of and contributors to a sustainable world. Sierra Nevada College combines the liberal arts and professional preparedness through an interdisciplinary curriculum that emphasizes entrepreneurial thinking and environmental, social, economic and educational sustainability.

**The Core Themes:**

Liberal Arts      Professional Preparedness      Entrepreneurial Thinking      Sustainability

*"The world is before you, and you need not take it or leave it as it was when you came in."*

-- James Baldwin

**TENTATIVE SPRING 2020 SCHEDULE**  
**SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

Wk	Date	Topic	Due
1	1/20	NO CLASS - MLK Jr. Day	N/A
	1/22	<b>Introductions</b>	N/A
2	1/27	<b>Building social movements for sustainability</b>	Notecard
	1/29	<b>Liberation</b>	Notecard
3	2/3	<b>Capitalism and Class</b>	Notecard
	2/5	<b>Capitalism and Class, continued</b>	Notecard
4	2/10	<b>Race</b>	Notecard
	2/12	<b>Race, continued</b>	Notecard
	2/13	<b>Art Reception: Rodney Ewing</b> <i>Tahoe Gallery, 5-7 PM</i>	None
5	2/17	NO CLASS - President's Day	N/A
	2/19	<b>Gender</b>	Notecard
6	2/24	<b>Gender, continued</b>	Notecard
	2/26	<b>Interventions</b>	Notecard
7	3/2	<b>Midterms:</b> social movement presentations and timeline	NONE
	3/4	<b>Midterms:</b> social movement presentations and timeline	NONE
8	3/9	NO CLASS - Spring Break	N/A
	3/11	NO CLASS - Spring Break	N/A
9	3/16	<b>Environmental Justice</b>	Notecard Assignment
	3/18	<b>Environmental Justice, continued</b>	Notecard
10	3/23	<b>Globalization and Migration</b> Guest: Sonya Hernandez	Notecard

	3/25	<b>Globalization and Migration, continued</b> Guest: Sonya Hernandez	Notecard Assignment
11	3/30	<b>Modern Day Slavery</b>	Notecard
	4/1	<b>Modern Day Slavery, continued</b>	Notecard Zine rough draft
12	4/6	<b>Government and Politics</b>	Notecard
	4/8	<b>Government and Politics, continued</b>	Notecard
13	4/13	<b>Doing the Work // Where do we go from here</b>	Notecard
	4/15	<b>Finals: Present Zines</b>	Final Zine
14	4/20	End of School Activities	
	4/22	End of School Activities	

*"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world."*

-- Anne Frank