UP 880: URBAN SUSTAINABILITY
Fall 2023  Mondays  2:30 to 5:10pm   RM. 343

Carolyn Esswein, FAICP, CNU-A
414.977.7744, Room 389
cesswein@uwm.edu
Office Hours: Before class or by appointment

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Expand your knowledge about a variety of urban sustainable challenges and opportunities.
2. Explore alternative strategies for encouraging implementation of sustainable practices and regulations.
3. Increase your understanding of sustainable measurements for various types of projects, uses, and applications.

TECHNOLOGIES AND SOFTWARE

We will use the following programs, please download if you don’t already have access:
- Canvas – course materials
- OneDrive – online file sharing folder to upload your assignments as noted in the syllabus.
- Zoom – online as needed for class: Canvas Announcements

DATE  TOPIC & RECOMMENDED READING

9/11  2 minute Free-Write “What is Sustainability?”
Smart Growth & Urban sustainability foundations, models, & theories
Eco-Municipalities Smart Growth
APA Policy Energy Efficiency Plans
Adaptation and Resilience Planning, City Initiatives
Introduce Assignments 1 – Municipal Planning Models

Resources:
PAS Report Planning for Climate Mitigation and Adaptation
Toward a Sustainable Community, Volume 2. UW-Extension Link

9/18  John Gardner, UWM Sustainability – Campus Sustainability Initiatives & Tour
An inclusive approach – transit, site, building, operations, and curriculum.

Sunday 9/24  Upload Assignment to OneDrive by 5:00pm

9/25  Assignment 1 Municipal Plan Presentations
Bre Plier, MMSD – Green Infrastructure Principles and Initiatives
Density and Stormwater – solutions from parking to green roofs
Introduce Assignment 2 – UWM Sustainability Office, Evaluation of State Plans for Funding Opportunities

Resources:
Fresh Coast: MMSD [Link]
Sustainable Design and Green Building Toolkit, EPA
https://archive.epa.gov/greenbuilding/web/html/

2 minute article presentations (Group A)
Eco Districts and Sustainable Urbanism
Green & Healthy Schoolyards, Milwaukee Public School Transformations

Resources:
ecodistricts.org
Reflo Green Schoolyard Projects [Link]

Menomonee Valley Presentation & Walking Tour, Corey Zetts
“Menomonee Valley 2.0” [Link]

Sunday 10/22  Upload Assignment to OneDrive by 5:00pm

Assignment 2  Plan Evaluation Presentations & Recommendations

2 minute article presentations (Group B)
Sustainable Rating Systems
LEED and LEED ND – sustainable buildings and neighborhoods
DISCUSSION: Net Zero Development_Extreme Rating System – Is it possible?
Introduce Assignment 3 – Rating & Measurement Systems

Resources: usgbc.org and usgbc.org/guide/nd

2 minute article presentations (Group C)
FOOD Access & Equity for Sustainable Neighborhoods
Urban Agriculture – Gardens to Farms
Introduce Assignment 4: Case Study and Marketing

Sunday 11/12  Upload Assignment to OneDrive by 5:00pm

Assignment 3: Rating System Presentations
11/20  
**2 minute article presentations (Group D)**
Importance of Urban Open Space & Biophilic Design
Equitable Health Connections and Benefits
**DISCUSSION: Sharing Your Favorite Public Space**

**Resources:**
PAS Report Planning Biophilic Communities
PAS Report Planning for Urban Heat and Resilience
Trust for Public Land [Link](#)

11/27  
**2 minute article presentations (Group E)**
Alternative Transportation Systems
Water Centric Cities

**Resources:**
Energy.gov Sustainable Transportation and Fuels [Link](#)
Milwaukee Water Centric City [Link](#)
December 6th Innovative Cities Lecture Susan Handy “Shifting Gears”

12/4  
Removing Market Barriers to Green Infrastructure
Applying Sustainable Strategies to Development
**Discussion: Bringing it All Together – Future of Urban Sustainability**
Final Assignment Review

*SUNDAY 12/10*  
**Upload Assignment to OneDrive by 5:00pm**

12/11  
**Presentations: Case Study and Marketing Feature**

SUSTAINABILITY “In the News” 2 minute presentation
Find a current article, online or local news, that highlights a current climate or sustainable topic. Describe the topic, innovative aspect for impact, and your opinion on opportunities for change. Present to class on your assigned date. Submit article link.
No media required.
A. Cohen, Waldbillig, Kissel
B. Doiron, Sullivan, Heisel
C. Enders, Smith, Melton
D. Fehr, Schumacher, Grant
E. Gagner, Orendorff, Jain

RECOMMENDED TEXT AND READINGS
Syllabus links and resources posted on Canvas.

COURSE LEARNING FORMAT AND INTERACTION
Each class period will include a lecture and some interactive group activities. The online weekly reading postings are available on Canvas or via links noted in the syllabus.
USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
In this class, you may use Artificial Intelligence (AI) for assignments with appropriate citations. Please be aware that despite the many uses of AI language models, it is important to recognize AI’s limitations and use this technology both responsibly and ethically. AI-generated answers and quotes are known to be highly biased, inaccurate, incomplete, or generally unreliable. It is your responsibility to critically evaluate all responses generated with the use of AI. Furthermore, you must cite AI when it is used. Taking credit for any work that is not your own original work constitutes academic misconduct and is subject to disciplinary action as defined by UWS Chapter 14.

IMPORTANT UWM DATES
Last day to add, change to/from credit/no credit/audit status: Monday, September 18, 2023
Last day to drop without a “W”: Monday, October 2, 2023
Last day to drop: Sunday, November 12, 2023

GRADING
Class participation, attendance, and article 15%
Project #1: Municipal Plan 20%
Project #2: State Plans Evaluation (groups) 20%
Project #3: Rating System 20%
Project #4: Case Study and Marketing (groups) 25%

Late projects are those not presented or posted at the assigned time. Late projects will be graded down half grade if turned in within two days of the due date (Friday noon following the due date), one full grade if they are turned in Monday at noon following the due date. Projects later than one week will be graded down two full grades.

Grading Definitions
A Excellent work. Expectations are exceeded both quantitatively and qualitatively. Outstanding achievements in content and execution and far exceeds given requirements. Student shows strong academic initiative and independent resourcefulness.

B Good work reflects higher than average achievement in both content and execution and further develops requirements. Students shows some initiative and independence.

C Satisfactory work. Requirements are met. Student exhibits minimal initiative and independence.

D Unsatisfactory work. Expectations have not been met.

F Failing work. Unacceptable performance and incomplete products. Does not fulfill requirements

UWM POLICY: ESTIMATE OF TIME INVESTMENT by the average student
On average, students should spend 48 hours per credit per semester on in-class activities and activities outside of the classroom (approx. 144 hours for a 3-credit course).
ATTENDANCE
Students are expected to attend all classes in-person unless otherwise notified of a mode change, and be prepared for class. Exceptions to this policy include excused absences for religious observances or documented health or safety emergencies. Other reasons for excused absences need to be discussed with the faculty prior to the absence. Attendance in another class or for work is not an excused absence.

UWM RESOURCES + POLICIES
https://uwm.edu/deanofstudents/campus-cares/
https://uwm.edu/secu/syllabus-links/

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT
The university has a responsibility to promote academic honesty and integrity and to develop procedures to deal effectively with instances of academic dishonesty. Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others’ academic endeavors. Student academic misconduct procedures can be found at: https://uwm.edu/academicaffairs/facultystaff/policies/academic

OTHER COURSE POLICIES
This course adheres to campus policies regarding students with disabilities, religious observances, active military service, incompletes, discriminatory conduct, complaints about the course, and grade appeals.
For details about these policies, see the following links.
https://uwm.edu/arc/
https://uwm.edu/military-veterans/
https://uwm.edu/titleix/

FROM THE PROVOST: Students in Need
Any student who faces challenges securing their food, housing, or technology, or is struggling with mental, physical, or emotional health, and believes this may affect their performance in the course is urged to contact the Dean of Students (dos@uwm.edu) for support. Furthermore, please notify the professor if you are comfortable doing so. This will enable them to provide any resources that they may have and can connect you to the Dean of Students as well.

See Schedule of Classes for more University policies.