**GEOGRAPHY 4771: Sustainable Communities** 

Lakehead University CEDL

**FALL 2016** 

Instructor: Dr. Amy Siciliano

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Calendar Description

A review of current literature and practical applications relating to concepts of sustainable community planning, with specific reference to transportation systems, land use zoning, water and energy usage, and agriculture. The measurement of urban sustainability and the sustainability of human activities at regional and city scales are also considered.

Course Objectives

• To examine the historical and contemporary social, environmental and economic foundations of sustainable communities and their interconnectedness.

• To understand and evaluate the practical applications of sustainable communities and the policy implications of sustainability.

• To advance general critical analysis and written communication skills necessary in a graduate academic or other work setting.

Course Material

There is a required textbook for this course. It is available for purchase at both campuses. If you are unable to access the text, please let me know as soon as possible.

TEXT: Wheeler S. T. Beatley. 2014. Sustainable Urban Development Reader (London; New York: Routledge)

Other readings/material are available from the D2L course website, either in pdf, or as a link to an online document/video/audio on the Internet.

Course format

This class will be run as a seminar course. Students are expected to engage in active learning throughout the semester by leading seminar discussions, participating in case-studies, and interacting with your peers via the discussion board.

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It is essential that you do the required readings prior to the beginning of each week. Each student will be responsible for leading at least 1 seminar throughout the course. The readings (or films) will also serve as a basis for the weekly discussions as well as the case study exercises. Details of evaluation criteria for this course are contained on a separate document on the D2L course site.

#### **Evaluation Overview**

Guidelines for the preparation of the assignments and for my assessment of your work are discussed in detail on the document 'Grading Scheme found on the D2L course site. Below is a breakdown of the grading scheme and due dates.

Seminar Leader	10%	See schedule on D2L
Discussion participation	12.5%	ongoing
Cognitive Mapping Exercise	12.5%	Due Week 4
Neighbourhood Walkability Study	15%	Week 7
Sustainability Indicators Report	15%	Week 12
Final Exam	25%	Week of Dec 5; exact time TBA

#### Instructions for Submitting Assignments:

All assignments will be submitted through the D2L course website using 'Assignments'. You may submit your assignments in pdf, doc, docx, ppt or rtf format.

PLEASE NOTE: Unless otherwise advised, assignments are due on the MONDAY of the week they are due. They must be submitted by 4pm EASTERN STANDARD TIME or they will be considered late, and penalized. A late penalty of 5% per day will be applied. Submissions more than one week late will not be accepted without legitimate documentation.

I will return all graded material to you within ten days of its receipt, unless I advise you otherwise. All grades will be posted on D2L course site.

# Contacting the Instructor

Please email me at <u>asicilia@lakeheadu.ca</u>. I will check my e-mail and the discussion board once a day, between the hours of 9am-10pm (with the exception of weekends and holidays), and will endeavour to respond to your questions within 24 hours. Please do not email me and expect an immediate response. Please do not email me exam or essay related questions the night before the exam or due

date of an assignment. If I am unable to access my email or the Desire2learn (D2L) course website for more than 24 hours, I will advise you in advance.

### Learning Accommodations

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. If you have special needs regarding the format or the due dates for the assignments, you **must** inform me at the beginning of the term. Guidance and appropriate forms can be obtained from the Student Accessibility Services: http://learningassistance.lakeheadu.ca

## **Academic Dishonesty**

Plagiarism is a *serious* offence and will be treated as such. Plagiarism includes improper acknowledgement or citation of the work of others, the inclusion of false or misleading references, and the resubmission of work that has already been evaluated at the university. Prevent inadvertent academic dishonesty by carefully referencing and citing the sources you use in your work. Please consult the library website's guide on 'Citing your sources' if you are unsure of how to propertly make a citation: http://library.lakeheadu.ca/?pg=350 If you are unsure as to whether or not you are plagiarising, check the scope of plagiarism as defined below, and/or contact the Writing Centre at the University: <a href="http://writingcentre.lakeheadu.ca">http://writingcentre.lakeheadu.ca</a>

As noted in the University Calendar (University Regulation IX Academic Misconduct), 'plagiarism' shall be deemed to include:

- 1. Plagiarism of ideas as where an idea of an author or speaker is incorporated into the body of an assignment as though it were the writer's idea, i.e. no credit is given the person through referencing or footnoting or endnoting.
- 2. Plagiarism of words occurs when phrases, sentences, tables or illustrations of an author or speaker are incorporated into the body of a writer's own, i.e. no quotations or indentations (depending on the format followed) are present but referencing or footnoting or endnoting is given. [Please note that this also includes 'cutting and pasting' images, illustrations, etc from the web without citing the source in full].
- 3. Plagiarism of ideas and words as where words and an idea(s) of an author or speaker are incorporated into the body of a written assignment as though they were the writer's own words and ideas, i.e. no quotations or indentations (depending on format followed) are present and no referencing or footnoting or endnoting is given.

### University Regulation XII Timely Feedback

Lakehead University recognizes that it is important to provide timely and constructive feedback on

all academic work. For all courses, at least 25% (for one term courses) and 30% (for two term courses) of the final grade shall be provided to students prior to the last day to withdraw without academic penalty for the course. Exceptions to the graded feedback include theses, dissertations, pass/fail courses, directed reading courses, seminar courses, independent research study courses, and performance courses. All other exceptions must be approved by the Dean. Exceptions granted should be included on the course outline.

#### Course Schedule

NOTE: SUDR refers to your course textbook, *The Sustainable Urban Development Reader*. All other course material is available on the D2L course site under the Content tab. Each week's readings are broken down into two parts. As a seminar leader or discussion participant, you will be responsible for covering the material in either part I or part II for each week.

Due dates for sustainability exercises are noted under the week they are due.

Week	Course Material	
Module I: What is a sustainable development?		
W1 Sept 5	SUDR: 'The Three Magnets' and 'The town-country magnet' (pp 11-18)	
	SUDR: 'Cities and the Crisis of Civilization' (pp19-23)	
	SUDR: 'Orthodox Planning and the North End' (pp. 35-38)	
	Video: Cree Conceptions of Sustainability: Alex Wilson	
	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hxqvlercQUA	
W2 Sept 12	SUDR: "The Development of Underdevelopment" (pp. 45-49)	
	SUDR: "Perspectives, Problems, Models" (pp. 50-54)	
	SUDR: 'The Steady-State Economy' (pp. 55-60)	
	SUDR: 'Towards Sustainable Development" (pp. 66-70)	
	SUDR: "The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development", + other excerpts from this chapter (pp. 79-86)	
W3 Sept 19	Hayden, D. 2010. I Have seen the future: The unsustainable city, <i>Journal of Urban History</i> .	
	Marcuse, Peter. 1998. Sustainability is not enough. Environment and Urbanization 10(2):103-111.	
	Module II: physical dimensions of sustainable development	

W4 Sept 26	SUDR: Towards low carbon urbanism' (pp. 101-105)	
Sustainability	SUDR: 'The urbanization of Climate Change: Responding to a new global challenge	
exercise 1	(pp107-116)	
	Video: Naomi Klein: This Changes Everything live with Owen Jones - Full Length I	
	Guardian Live https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dhJA7HCPHDA	
W5 Oct 3	Norton, P. 2007. "Street Rivals- Jaywalking and the Invention of the Motor Age	
	Street." Technology and Culture (48) 331-359.pdf	
	Short, J. 2010. No Accident: Traffic and Pedestrians in the Modern City, Mobilities 5(10).	
	Active Transportation: Making it Work in Canadian Communities https://www.cip-	
	<u>icu.ca/Files/Resources/FACTSHEETS-ActiveTransportation-FINALenglish.aspx</u>	
	Complete Streets Gap analysis: 'Executive summary, conclusions, case studies'.	
FALL STUDY BREAK OCT 10-14		
W6 Oct 17	SUDR: 'The next American Metropolis' (pp. 119-129)	
	SUDR: 'Compactness vs sprawl' (pp. 130-137)	
	SUDR: 'Infill Development' (pp. 138-145)	
	SUDR: 'Outdoor space and outdoor activities (pp. 146-150)	
Modu	le III: Social and Economic dimensions sustainable development	
W7 Oct 24	What a Waste: Food Waste	
Sustainability	http://www.cbc.ca/whatawaste/popupaudio.html?clipIds=2468656490	
exercise 2	SUDR: 'The Hijacking of the global food supply' (344-350)	
	SUDR: The Metabolism of cities (pp. 197-204)	
	SUDR: Waste as a resource (pp. 224-232)	
W8 Oct 31	Podcast: Red Man Laughing – Land	
	http://www.redmanlaughing.com/listen/2016/7/red-man-laughing-land	
	SUDR: 'Domesticating urban space' (pp. 242-247)	
	SUDR: 'Strengthening Local Economies" (pp. 293-303)	
	SUDR: 'Natural Capitalism" (pp. 276-285)	
W9 Nov 7	SUDR: 'Fighting Poverty and Environmental Justice in Cities' (pp. 248-260)	
	SUDR: "People of Colour Environmentalism" (pp. 235-241)	

	Film: Remembering Africville <a href="https://www.nfb.ca/film/remember_africville/">https://www.nfb.ca/film/remember_africville/</a>	
Module IV: Planning for Sustainable Communities		
W10 Nov 14	SUDR: 'Urban Sustainability Reporting' (pp. 367-374) SUDR: 'The story of change' (pp. 406-408)	
	SUDR: 'What is an Ecological Footprint' (pp. 375-383)	
	Watch: "Bill Rees: Vancouver: Metropolitan Sustainability and Urban	
	Development," Planning the Vancouver Metropolitan Region Symposium	
	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b0uNkn3KCMg	
W11 Nov 21	SUDR: "Urban Planning in Curitiba" (pp. 411-421)	
	Social urbanism' experiment breathes new life into Colombia's Medellin	
	http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/world/social-urbanism-experiment-	
	breathes-new-life-into-colombias-medellin/article22185134/	
	SUDR: 'Seeing Change' (pp. 384-387)	
	SUDR: 'A progressive politics of meaning' (pp. 400-405)	
W12 Nov 28	Bunce, S. 2009. Developing Sustainability: Sustainability policy and gentrification	
Sustainability	on Toronto's waterfront Local Environment 14(7): 651-667.	
exercise 3		
	Interview with Leanne Simpson by Naomi Klein:	
	http://www.yesmagazine.org/peace-justice/dancing-the-world-into-being-a-	
	conversation-with-idle-no-more-leanne-simpson	
	Video: Mobilizing Sustainability in Education, Policy & Practice - Dr. Manulani Aluli Meyer <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZwOnv-rr9Aw&amp;app=desktop">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZwOnv-rr9Aw&amp;app=desktop</a>	