

**Welcome to ENG 177 SI: Intro to Sustainability!**

**ENG 177 is a 1 credit hour, graded course** that aims to provide students a forum for critical reflection and involvement in the study of sustainability on campus at UIUC and globally. The course will involve active lectures from campus experts on sustainability topics, regular readings and reflective writings, and a final team project designed to hone student’s proposal writing and presentation skills. Sustainability topics to be covered include: zero waste, energy, transportation, land and water, resilience, and education.

**Students who attend class, actively participate, and complete all regular assignments will:**

- Understand that our actions affect other regions of the world
- Gain an appreciation of sustainability initiatives on campus and globally
- Learn concepts on sustainability and its implementation in engineering processes
- Understand how to develop a project proposal and budget for a sustainability initiative on campus

**INSTRUCTOR** Kimberly Powers      [powerska@illinois.edu](mailto:powerska@illinois.edu)      please email for a meeting

**SCHEDULE**      Mondays, 12-12:50pm from August 21 to December 4

**LOCATION**      2039 Campus Instructional Facility (CIF)

**COURSE MATERIALS**      available on Canvas: <https://canvas.illinois.edu/courses/36367>

**WEEKLY CLASS SCHEDULE**      *Instructor reserves the right to alter schedule as needed to achieve course goals*

WEEK	DATE	TOPIC
1	8/21	Course Overview – How do you define sustainability?
2	8/28	Sustainability Part I: <a href="#">iCAP</a> and campus sustainability
3	9/4	NO CLASS – Labor Day
4	9/11	Sustainability Part II: Sustainability overview – socio-environmental intersections
5	9/18	Sustainability Part III: Sustainability in your life
6	9/25	<a href="#">The Illinois Green Fund</a> & team project details
7	10/2	Energy
8	10/9	Zero Waste
9	10/16	Land & Water I
10	10/23	Land & Water II
11	10/30	Transportation
12	11/6	Education & Engagement

13	11/13	Project preparation / Day of action
14		NO CLASS – Fall Break
15	11/27	Resilience
16	12/4	Team project presentations

**ASSIGNMENTS & GRADE DISTRIBUTION**

All assignment details, including instructions and rubrics, are posted on Canvas and available after the class session that they’re introduced. All work should be submitted on Canvas by the deadline.

ASSIGNMENT	POINTS	% of GRADE
Lecture Attendance & Discussion <i>Class meets a total of 14 times, so one unexcused absence will not impact the final grade</i>	130 (10 x 13 classes)	20%
Regular Homework Assignments	260	40%
Reflection: Sustainability event / activity	65	10%
Final Team Project <i>This will include an initial proposal, outline, final presentation, and peer evaluations</i>	195	30%
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>100%</b>

**LATE ASSIGNMENTS:** Assignments submitted after the deadline will be reduced by 10% for each day that they are late, up to a maximum 50% reduction. A 10 point assignment submitted 2 days late can receive a maximum of 8 points. A 10 point assignment submitted 1 week late can receive a maximum of 5 points.

**No assignments will be accepted for credit after Friday, December 8.**

**GRADING SCALE**

A 90 – 100% | B 80 – 89% | C 70 – 79% | D 60 – 69% | F ≤ 59%

**COURSE POLICIES & EXPECTATIONS**

**Course readings & other materials:** Students will be asked to read excerpts from the [Illinois Climate Action Plan \(iCAP\)](#) as well as recent articles, short videos, and podcasts related to sustainability. These readings are selected to introduce students to sustainability initiatives on campus along with global challenges in sustainability. Students should approach this media actively, engaging with the creator’s views while also testing them against their own experiences in order to develop thoughtful responses to homework assignments.

**Attending and participating in class sessions is required** and is worth 20% of your final grade in ENG 177. Students’ final grades will be negatively impacted if they miss class, arrive late, leave early, or do not actively participate in class.

**Students who are unable to attend a class should contact their instructor for approval of the absence before the class meets.** Examples of excused absences in line with [the student code](#) include a documented illness, a family emergency, required military service or athletic event, or observance of a religious holiday. When a student's absence is excused, they are responsible for reviewing all content covered during the class and completing required assignments in accordance with the regular deadline in order to earn credit.

**Students who need to miss a class session for a religious observance** should inform their instructors early in the semester to discuss accommodations and assignment timelines. Students may also need to work with the Student Assistance Center to complete a "[Request for Accommodation for Religious Observances](#)" form.

To have an enlightening, productive discussion in a comfortable class environment, students are expected to follow these guidelines in class and in their teams:

- **Share responsibility for including all voices in the conversation** – if you find it easy to speak up, make sure you allow sufficient space to hear from others.
- **Listen respectfully** – don't interrupt, turn to technology, or engage in side conversations when others are talking.
- **Understand that your words can affect others** – speak with care; if you learn that something you've said was experienced as disrespectful, listen carefully and try to understand that perspective.
- **Be open to changing your perspective based on what you learn from others** – try to explore new ideas and possibilities.
- **Take work in pairs or small groups seriously** – remember that your peers' learning partly depends on your engagement.
- **Get to know your classmates** – introduce yourself to the students sitting near you and introduce yourself when you're in a new group.

**These expectations align with The Grainger College of Engineering's commitment to the creation of an anti-racist, inclusive community that welcomes diversity along a number of dimensions,** including, but not limited to, race, ethnicity and national origins, gender and gender identity, sexuality, disability status, class, age, or religious beliefs. The College recognizes that we are learning together in the midst of the Black Lives Matter movement, and that Black, Hispanic, and Indigenous voices and contributions have largely either been excluded from, or not recognized in, science and engineering, and that both overt racism and microaggressions threaten the well-being of our students and our university community.

The effectiveness of this course depends on each of us creating a safe and encouraging learning environment that allows for the open exchange of ideas while also ensuring equitable opportunities and respect for all. Everyone is expected to help establish and maintain an environment where students, staff, and faculty can contribute without fear of personal ridicule, or intolerant or offensive language. If you witness or experience racism, discrimination, microaggressions, or other offensive behavior, you are encouraged to bring this to the attention of the instructor if you feel comfortable.

You can also report these behaviors to Campus Belonging Resources at <https://diversity.illinois.edu/diversity-campus-culture/belonging-resources/>. Based on your report, members of the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion will follow up.

### **TECHNOLOGY USE DURING CLASS**

**Use of interactive technology (Cell Phones, Tablets, Laptops, iPods) is allowed only when it is required for an in-class assignment *and* this requirement is explicitly stated by your instructor.** At all other times, personal electronic devices should be silenced and put away. ENG 177 requires you to be an active listener and participant in class lectures and activities. This tech-free policy helps students be fully present in class and prevents students from unintentionally distracting their peers. Students who frequently use electronics during class time without approval from their instructor will receive reduced points for attendance and participation.

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Academic dishonesty may result in a failing grade. Every student is expected to review and abide by the Academic Integrity Policy: <https://studentcode.illinois.edu/article1/part4/1-401/>. Lack of awareness or knowledge is not an excuse for any academic dishonesty. It is your responsibility to read this policy to avoid any misunderstanding. Do not hesitate to ask the instructor(s) if you are ever in doubt about what constitutes plagiarism, cheating, or any other breach of academic integrity.

### **EDUCATIONAL SERVICES & RESOURCES**

**To ensure that disability-related concerns are properly addressed from the beginning, students with disabilities who require assistance to participate in this class should apply for services with DRES and contact the instructor as soon as possible.** DRES provides students with academic accommodations, access, and support services. To contact DRES, you may call 217-333-1970, e-mail [disability@illinois.edu](mailto:disability@illinois.edu), or visit the DRES website at <http://www.disability.illinois.edu/>.

### **MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS**

Significant stress, mood changes, excessive worry, substance/alcohol misuse or interferences in eating or sleep can have an impact on academic performance, social development, and emotional wellbeing. The University of Illinois offers a variety of confidential services including individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, psychiatric services, and specialized screenings which are covered through the Student Health Fee. If you or someone you know experiences any of the above mental health concerns, we strongly encourage you to contact or visit any of the University's resources provided below. Getting help is a smart and courageous thing to do for yourself and for those who care about you.

- Counseling Center (217) 333-3704
- McKinley Health Center (217) 333-2700
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (800) 273-8255
- Rosecrance Crisis Line (217) 359-4141 (available 24/7, 365 days a year)

If you are in immediate danger, call 911.

### **REPORTING OBLIGATIONS FOR SEXUAL MISCONDUCT**

The University of Illinois is committed to combating sexual misconduct. Faculty and staff members, including the instructor of this class, are required to report any disclosed instances of sexual misconduct to the University's Title IX and Disability Office. In turn, an individual with the Title IX and Disability Office will provide information about rights and options, including accommodations, support services, the campus disciplinary process, and law enforcement options.

A list of the designated University employees who, as counselors, confidential advisors, and medical professionals, do not have this reporting responsibility and can maintain confidentiality, can be found here: [wecare.illinois.edu/resources/students/#confidential](https://wecare.illinois.edu/resources/students/#confidential)

Other information about resources and reporting is available here: [weccare.illinois.edu](https://weccare.illinois.edu)

### **CLASSROOM SAFETY**

Emergency response recommendations and campus building floor plans can be found at the following website: <https://police.illinois.edu/em/run-hide-fight/>. We encourage you to review this website within the first 10 days of class.