

## SUMMARY COURSE OUTLINE (DRAFT)

### SEPTEMBER 23

**Introduction:** Welcome to an Ongoing Adventure!

Setting the Table: The Context of Environmental Planning

*We can never know about the days to come but we think about them anyway.*

-- Carly Simon

Readings: Reader, Section I; Hoch, Chapter 8  
(review for next class meeting)

**Topic:** Historic Overview of Environmental Movement

*History is always repeating itself, but each time the price goes up.* -- Anonymous

**Presentation:** The People's Century

Readings: Reader, Section II

### SEPTEMBER 25

**Topic:** The Context of Environmental Planning (Continued)

Discussion: "Where you at"

**Topic:** Natural and Human Systems: Ecology and Design

*Interactions between man and land are too important to be left to chance.*

-- Aldo Leopold, 1933

Readings: Reader, Section I

### SEPTEMBER 30

**Topic:** *The Policy Process and Environmental Planning, Seasoned With Policy Paradoxes*

Readings: Reader, Section III

**Topic/Discussion:** Sustainable Indicators Project

Readings: As assigned

## **OCTOBER 2**

**Topic:** What is Environmental Planning? What About Values and Ethics?

Readings: Reader, Section IV

**Topic:** The Sprawl Debate: The Center of Environmental Issues?

**Presentation:** Where We Live (Atlanta, CNN Report)

*If the places where we live and work were really fit for permanent human habitation,  
why should we spend so much of our time getting away from them?  
-- Lewis Mumford, "The Urban Prospect"*

Readings: Reader, Section V

**Due:** Ecological Footprint Exercise

## **OCTOBER 7**

**Field Trip:** Brizzolari Watershed Assessment (with other CRP 336 Section)

Readings: Reader, Section VI

## **OCTOBER 9**

**Topic:** Environmental Planning at the National Level: Our National Parks & Wilderness

*Everything is connected to everything else.-- Barry Commoner, "The Closing Circle", 1971.*

Readings: Reader, Section VII

**Presentation:** Yosemite, The Fate of Heaven

**Discussion:** Sustainable Indicator Project

Readings: TBA

## **OCTOBER 14**

**Topic:** Federal, State, Regional, & Local Planning: The California Coastal Planning Process, etc.

*Places have an impact on our sense of self, our sense of safety, the kind of work we get done, the ways we interact with other people, even our ability to function as citizens in a democracy. In short, the places where we spend time affect the people we are and can become.*

Tony Hiss, *The Experience of Place*.

Readings: Reader, Section VIII

### **OCTOBER 16: FIRST EXAM**

*Yesterday is a cancelled check. Tomorrow is a promissory note. Today is ready cash.  
Use it!*

-- Edward Bliss, "Getting Things Done"

### **OCTOBER 21**

**Topic:** Sustainability and Environmental Planning: Building Bridges or Castles in the Sand?

Readings: Reader, Section IX

**Topic/Discussion:** Sustainable Indicators Project

Readings: TBA

**DUE:** Indicator Web Site Assignment

### **OCTOBER 23 (Tentative)**

Guest Speaker: Janice Chang  
SLO Community Foundation

"Action for Healthy Communities and Sustainable Indicators"

### **OCTOBER 28**

**Topic:** Sustainable Indicators Project

*It is not enough to be busy; so are the ants. The question is : What are we busy about?  
-- Henry David Thoreau*

Readings: TBA

### **OCTOBER 30**

**Topic:** The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): Mitigation Revisited with a Touch of Sustainability

*We inherit the earth, but. . . we also rebuild the earth, -- without plan, without knowledge of its properties, and without understanding of the increasing coarse and powerful tools which science has placed at our disposal. We are remodeling the Alhambra with a steam shovel.*

-- Aldo Leopold, 1933

Readings: Reader, Section XI; Fulton, Chapter 9 (review)

#### **NOVEMBER 4**

**Topic:** TBA. Field Study: City of San Luis Obispo Water Reclamation Facility  
(or November 12<sup>th</sup>)

Readings: TBA

#### **NOVEMBER 6**

**Topic:** Preserving Agricultural Land: The Need For Stewardship, I

*A nation that destroys its soil, destroys itself.*      -- Franklin Delano Roosevelt

**Presentation:** Beyond Organic

*The farm not only grows food, it nourishes human character, is a challenge sand a teacher, a source of insight and values.*      --Wendell Berry

Readings: Reader, XII

#### **NOVEMBER 11**

**Topic:** TBA. Field Study: City of San Luis Obispo Water Reclamation Facility  
(or November 5<sup>th</sup>)

Readings: TBA

#### **NOVEMBER 13**

**Topic:** Sustainable Communities and Green Plans

*Environmentalists have to be architects, not just complainers.*  
--Fred Krupp, Environmental Defense Fund

Readings: Reader, XIII

**DUE:** Environmental Planning Articles Assignment

**NOVEMBER 18**

**Topic/Discussion:** Sustainable Indicators

*The reason they call it the American dream is because you have to be asleep to believe it.*

*-- George Carlin*

Readings: Reader, IX

**NOVEMBER 20**

**Guest Speaker:** Sustainable Planning From the Non Profit Sector

Alison Pernell  
Project Manager  
Local Government Commission. Sacramento, CA  
Web site: [www.lgc.org](http://www.lgc.org)

*Facts do not cease to exist because they are ignored.*

*-- Aldous Huxley*

**NOVEMBER 25**

Field Day

**NOVEMBER 27**

Thanksgiving Holiday

*Each generation imagines itself to be more intelligent than the one that went before it,  
and wiser than the one that comes after it.*

*-- George Orwell*

**DECEMBER 2**

TBA: Sustainable Indicators Project

**DECEMBER 4**

TBA: Sustainable Indicators Project

**DECEMBER 9**

Final Exam: 0410-0700 PM (feeling lucky?)

## **GRADING PROGRAM**

The following course components represent the total potential grade for this course:

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>POINTS</u>
Class Attendance and Participation	100
Two Exams (October 17, December 9 )	400
Assignment 1-Ecological Footprint Exercise (October 3)	100
Assignment 2-Indicator Web Site Assignment (October 22)	100
Assignment 3-Planning Articles Analysis (November 14)	100
Assignment 4-Final Indicator Project (December 5)	<u>200</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1000</b>

(Please note: Exams and can only be made up for medical reasons, subject to letter from a Doctor. Assignments 2-4 can not be made up, and will be subject to a ten point an hour penalty for lateness)

## **COURSE READINGS**

William Fulton. 1999. *Guide to California Planning*. Second Edition  
Point Arena, CA: Solano Press. (from CRP 212)

Charles J. Hoch, Linda C. Dalton, and Frank S. So, eds. 2000. *The Practice of Local Government Planning*. Washington, DC; International City/County Management Association. (from CRP 212)

Maureen Hart. 1999. *Guide to Sustainable Indicators*. Second Edition. North Andover, Maine, Hart Environmental Data.

COURSE READINGS: Available on the CRP server. Directions will be explained in class

**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday, 9:30 AM to Noon; Wednesday, 3 PM-5:30 PM. Dexter 234. 756-6331. [pwack@calpoly.edu](mailto:pwack@calpoly.edu). (Note: do not send e-mails w/attachments)

## **DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENTS**

### **ASSIGNMENT 1- ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT EXERCISE (October 8)**

To be defined in class

## ASSIGNMENT 2: INDICATOR WEB SITE ASSIGNMENT (November 22)

The purpose of this assignment is to familiarize class members with web sites that are connected to sustainable indicators, as defined by the **literature and context** provided by this course. Visit at least three web sites and select one for this assignment. The format of the report will include a 2 page limit, single-spaced, 12 pt. Font, New Times Roman (or similar) presentation, with no cover page or fancy folder. Locate your name, course, and quarter in the upper right hand corner of the first page. Title of the assignment should include the web site selected. Spiffy titles are encouraged. The two page limit does not include a screen shot, or a sample page, representing the web site.

The report is to include the following general sections:

- Introduction
- Web Site Design Analysis
- Content of Web site; hint, hint... This should be a major component of your paper!
- Conclusion

The Introduction should be an overall summary of the web site chosen.

- Who are the authors?
- Who is the target audience? (planners, architects, builders, landscape architects, engineers, environmentalists, business, international, community organizations, etc.)
- Is it a site for a non-profit, private business, or governmental agency?
- Is there charge \$\$ for information? Are publications for sale (include examples)? How much of web site information is “free”?
- Is the web site informative or promotional?

The next section should include a web site design analysis, including at least the following:

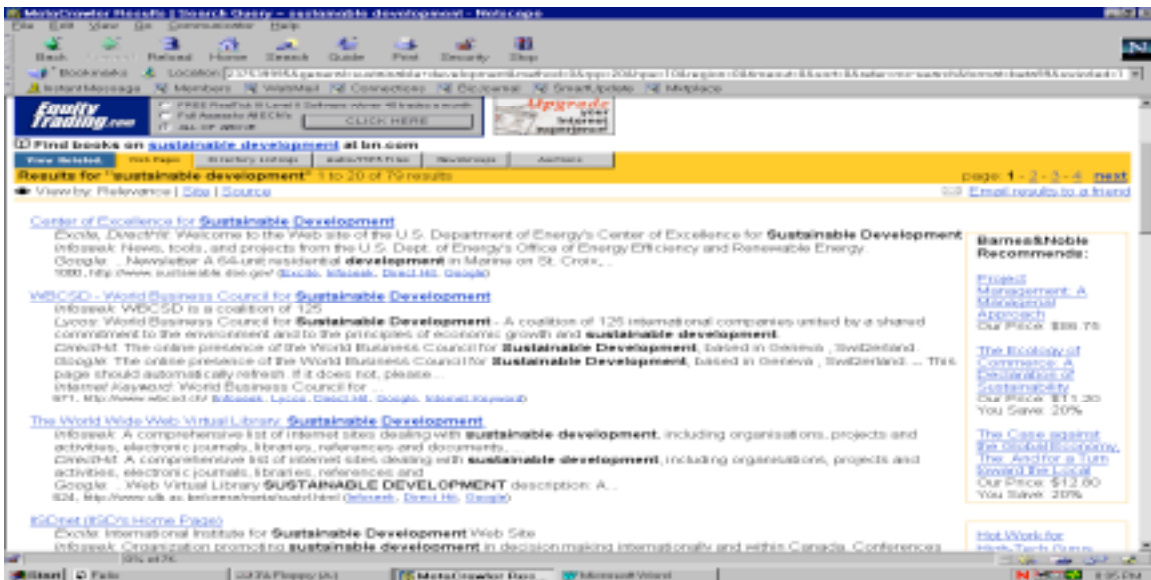
- Do the pages download efficiently? Load speed?
- Do links take you to where you would expect?
- How many links? Where do they lead you?
- Is design consistent throughout?
- Do graphics relate to and complement design and topic?
- Photography/illustration: your reaction?
- Is the navigation intuitive?
- Are you able to scroll?  
Aesthetics/Color & Contrast: your reaction?
- Button and menu design? Can you get back to the home page easily?
- Layout/composition/font usage?
- Copyright posted? E-mail contacts for questions/ phone contacts provided?

- Interactivity? Do they offer their own search capabilities?
- Do you have observations not covered by this reference list?

The next section should apply your knowledge of planning and sustainable indicators at the time of submittal, as defined by course literature and content. This section should include a more detailed summary of what the site **content** is all about. In what ways does the site relate to environmental planning? Is planning defined? Is the definition compatible with those provided by this course? You may have other related questions to offer. Appropriate referencing to appropriate course readings (Reader, p. \_\_\_\_; Fulton, p. \_\_\_\_; Hoch, p. \_\_\_\_) is expected.

The conclusion should be your overall opinion of the web site. Would you recommend it to others? Would you recommend including it on a web site if the class develops one for the course project? It is very important in this section to distinguish the difference between design and content. What do you base your overall judgment of the web site on? Appearance? Ideology? Content? Combo? Other considerations?

(NOTE: If you would like to place a screen shot in your Word document, simply have both the Word document and the www site running on your computer. Start by hitting “Print Screen” on whatever web page you would like to add to your paper, go to Word document, and place cursor where you want the shot to go and hit paste.)



## ASSIGNMENT 3- ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING ARTICLES ANALYSIS (November 14)

The purpose of this assignment is to remind class members that environmental planning is an important part of our lives and impacts every aspect of the community: local, regional, state, national, and global. Newspapers and magazines commonly include items that directly involve land use activities. Many specific events and ongoing issues provide examples of the planning concepts discussed in class.

Class members will collect a series of 5 articles during the Quarter (beginning September 15<sup>th</sup>) from newspapers and magazines (**no** Mustang Daily or academic/professional journals) and write an analysis linking the articles to themes in the class. Specific requirements include the following:

1. Transform a copy of each article on to 8 1/2x11 sheets, which should be easy with Internet sources. Arrange articles in chronological order with most recent articles last.
2. Prepare an analysis (2 page maximum, single-spaced, 12 pt. font) linking all the articles to the various themes presented in class during the Quarter. Connecting all articles to all themes presented in the course is not expected.
3. In this case a cover sheet is in order, which shall include a spiffy assignment title, your name, Quarter, and a title reflecting the assignment and your spin on it. Don't hesitate to be creative and have some fun with this assignment.
4. Include a Table of Contents listing articles with appropriate reference to author, title, source, date, and page(s). Internet sources shall have appropriate formatted referencing, including date retrieved.

It is recommended that class members utilize the PLANetizen Top 50 Websites 2002 (<http://www.planetizen.com/sites> ) as a source. Also, there are many newspapers to review at the Kennedy Library (LA Times, SF Chronicle, Sacramento Bee, New York Times, Washington Post, etc.) and magazines (Time, Newsweek, The Atlantic Monthly, etc.), not to mention many popular journals and newsletters published by non-profit organizations (Instructor approval required). Hint: there is a big world outside the San Luis Obispo scene. Check it out!

#### ASSIGNMENT 4-CLASS INDICATOR PROJECT (December 5)

The details of this assignment will evolve during the quarter. Put on your seatbelt . . .

*A land ethic then, reflects the existence of an ecological conscience, and in turn reflects a conviction of individual responsibility for the health of the land. -- Aldo Leopold.*

336coF03 (9-22-03, draft)